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THE TIMES

No. 65,201

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27 1995

£600m loss caused by dealings of one employee

Bank leads fight to save Barings from collapsing

By Patricia Tehan
Banking Correspondent

EMERGENCY talks to find £600 million to prevent the collapse of Baring Brothers, the oldest bank in the City, went on last night against a deadline which could trigger an international banking crisis.

Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, headed a task force in an attempt to organise funding before the financial markets opened in the Far East.

Losses of more than £600 million have been run up by Nick Leeson, a senior Barings trader in Singapore, wiping out the bank's entire capital. Mr Leeson, head of derivative trading in Singapore, went missing on Thursday and has not been seen since.

Barings, which employs 2,000 people in London and a total of 4,000 worldwide, discovered that he had bought between 15,000 and 20,000 contracts related to the Nikkei-225 stock index, which is traded on Simex, the Singapore stock market, and in Osaka, Japan. The dealing was unauthorised, and Barings had no knowledge of them.

Despite strict ceilings and monitoring procedures, Mr Leeson had managed to build up the portfolio of contracts over the previous two or three weeks. He is thought to have carried out the trades using a new model developed by the bank with built-in safeguards which were meant to detect anything untoward. If these positions are not closed today, the losses would spiral when markets open. Another 1,000 fall in the index would run up a further £150 million loss.

By last night the Barings disaster was already the worst to hit Britain's banking world in more than a decade. The Bank of England feared that the total collapse of Barings could lead to turmoil in global financial markets and to an international banking crisis.

Allowing Barings — the best-established bank in the country, founded in 1762 and with a client list including the Queen — to collapse would also cause untold damage to the reputation of the City as a financial centre. For the Bank of England, the traditional lender of last resort, to be unable to save an important British bank in trouble would be disastrous.

Barings directors were said to be in tears on Friday when they learned of the losses. The action appeared to be one of deliberate fraud, though it was not clear last night whether or not the intention was to cause the collapse of the bank. Mr Leeson is understood to have left Singapore, but his whereabouts are unknown. The Bank of England was notified on Friday and began work with Barings directors to try to work out a rescue. It is understood to have called all the main European banks and leading American investment banks. The main interest came from NatWest, ABN Amro, the Dutch banking giant, and the Swiss Bank Corporation.

Three options were being considered: a takeover of Barings by another bank, a lifeboat rescue operation involving a group of mainly British banks, or the collapse into administration of Barings.

Quentin Davies, a Conservative member of the Commons Treasury select committee, last night called on the Bank of England to disclose when it became aware of the crisis and to give details of the preventive action it took.

Alistair Darling, Labour's City spokesman, called for an explanation from the Chancellor of the Exchequer on the scale of Bank's involvement. "For some time there has been concern about the use of derivatives and the lack of appropriate supervision and regulation," he said. 'It is not just a matter for the Bank or company concerned. There is a public interest in ensuring that the integrity of the system is not threatened by losses of this nature."

Malcolm Bruce, Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said: "This astonishing and disturbing incident raises serious doubts about financial controls in the trading areas of our major banks. As soon as the Bank of England and Treasury have stabilised the situation, which must be achieved without resort to taxpayers' pockets, there should be a full investigation into the control of risk at British banks."

Derivatives are sophisticated financial instruments which include futures, options and swaps. They are tradable contracts linked with underlying values of currencies, equities, bonds or commodities. They were invented to help to provide protection against wide price moves by allowing players in the global market to hedge their positions and manage risk.

They are increasingly traded for their own sake, however, to turn a profit. If a trader bets on prices moving one way and they go the opposite way, he ends up with losses.

The position of Barings seemed to be strong compared to some of its competitors. It has a good corporate advisory business — notable business includes its work for Lloyds Bank, advising on the proposed acquisition of the Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society, and acting for Wellcome, the drugs group, which is fighting off a hostile

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ANDY GATT

Nigel Benn, who won by a knockout, leaving his home in Beckenham yesterday

Injured boxer 'has good chance of survival'

By Bill Frost
and John Goodbody

GERALD McCLELLAN, the boxer who suffered a massive brain injury in his world title bout with Nigel Benn, has a "good chance" of surviving, according to John Sutcliffe, the neurosurgeon who operated on him.

Mr Sutcliffe gave a warning, however, that the next 48 hours would be crucial. He said the 27-year-old American was in a "very critical" state on a life-support machine, would never fight again and could end up disabled.

McClellan, a former world middleweight champion, had a blood clot removed from the right side of his brain after the most brutal championship fight seen in a British ring for years. A capacity crowd of 12,000 in the London Docklands' Arena and an estimated 13 million television viewers in Britain saw Benn, the underdog, survive two knockdowns in the opening round on Saturday night and come back to win by a knockout in the tenth. At the ringside was Michael Watson, one of Benn's former rivals, who has been confined to a wheelchair since being crippled in a bout with Chris Eubank in 1991.

Special precautions had been taken by the British Boxing Board of Control, with an anaesthetist, four other doctors, two ambulances and two sets of paramedics at the bout, which John Morris, the board secretary, said had been expected to be "explosive".

Mr Sutcliffe said yesterday that oxygen given by medical staff at the ringside had played a vital role in keeping McClelland alive. In spite of this care, however, the British Medical Association and Sam Galbraith, a neurosurgeon and Labour MP for Strathkel-

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Fisherman lost after North Sea collision

A fisherman was missing last night after an oil rig supply vessel and the Arbroath registered fishing boat *Sharridale* collided in the North Sea 30 miles norht-east of Aberdeen. Five other crew were rescued from liferafts and the sea by the supply boat *Huntetor*, registered in Hamburg. The fishing boat sank in minutes.

Mayhew warning on IRA weapons

Sir Patrick Mayhew stepped up pressure on the IRA to give up its weapons when he said, on the eve of the Sinn Fein conference, that no minister would meet the party without "substantial progress" on the arms issue ....Page 2

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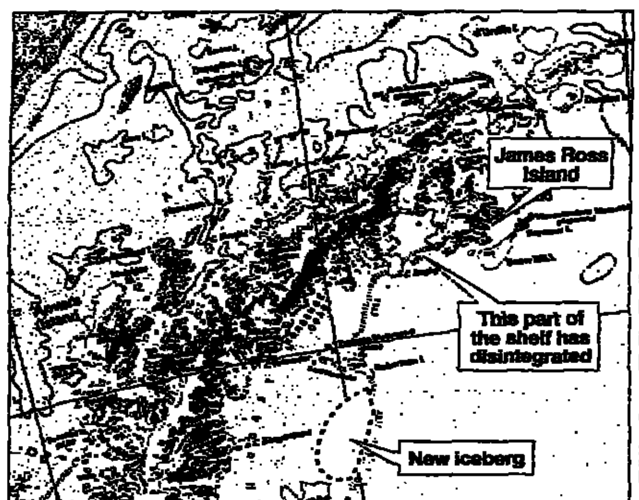


Antarctica casts off county-size iceberg

By Nick Nuttall, Environment Correspondent

AN ICEBERG the size of Oxfordshire has broken away from Antarctica as rising temperatures in the region trigger a disintegration of the continent's ice sheets.

British scientists said yesterday that the iceberg, which measures 1,115 square miles, could be taken by currents and winds towards the Falkland Islands and up the east coast of South America over the coming months and years. If it gets that far, it may break up and endanger shipping.

The British Antarctic Survey in Cambridge said that the "calving of one large iceberg may be a forerunner of a more serious disintegration of the ice sheets". Scientists have found that part of the Larsen ice shelf, which connected James Ross island with the peninsula over the Prince Gustav Channel, has also melted away. For the first time in recorded history the island, named after the head of an 1842 British expedition, can be sailed around. Ice sheets are considered permanent.

Teams from the survey's Rothera research station in Antarctica flew over the area to confirm satellite observations and the iceberg's size. They will disclose their findings today.

Dr Mike Thomson, chief geologist for the survey, said: "Looking out of the aircraft window, I was utterly amazed to see the dramatic and very recent changes to the Larsen ice shelf. In 25 years of Antarctic fieldwork I have never seen anything like it." Survey scientists who found recently that the Wordie ice shelf, on Antarctica's west coast, has also disintegrated link the events to a rise of 2.5°C in average temperatures in the past half-century.

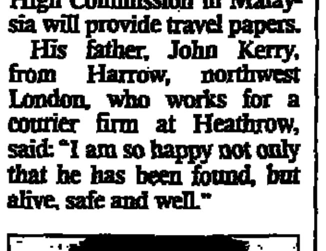
Teenage runaway found in Malaysia

By Bill Frost

PETER KERRY, the schoolboy who ran away to Malaysia using his father's passport and credit card after a row with his family, was found safe and well yesterday. He was spotted on the border between Malaysia and Thailand and will be put on a flight home today.

The Foreign Office said that Peter, 14, identified while trying to cash a traveller's cheque, was put in the care of a "responsible British national". A spokesman said: "He is well, but extremely tired because of what he has been up to and because of jet lag. He's now fast asleep. Arrangements will be made for him to return." The British High Commission in Malaysia will provide travel papers.

His father, John Kerry, from Harrow, northwest London, who works for a courier firm at Heathrow, said: "I am so happy not only that he has been found, but alive, safe and well."



Kerry: to be put on a flight home today

Major praises Euro-sceptics in bid to win vote

By Nicholas Wood, Chief Political Correspondent

JOHN MAJOR yesterday led an attempt by the Tory leadership to avoid defeat in Wednesday's Commons vote over Europe.

In a move that delighted Euro-sceptics but will enrage the pro-European wing of the party, the Prime Minister lent his name to a radical right-wing manifesto calling for tough new curbs on Brussels and the abandonment of the Maastricht timetable for a single currency.

In a foreword to the 40-page manifesto, whose authors include some of the leaders of the Tory revolt over Maastricht, Mr Major was careful to avoid endorsing their specific demands. But his description of their contribution as "lively and thought-provoking" was seen by the sceptics as an important olive branch in the Prime Minister's efforts to avoid a defeat that would raise fresh doubts over his leadership.

Leading right-wingers said the latest evidence that Mr Major was tilting towards the sceptic camp could help to persuade some of the nine whipless Tory rebels to support him in the vote on a Labour motion attacking the Government's European policy.

Jeremy Hanley, the Tory party chairman, joined the charm offensive, saying that a vote for the Government would hasten the exiles' return to the Conservative fold. "Those who do vote for the Government on Wednesday will be in a different position from those who do not. That is clear." Mr Hanley said on Sky News. With the Ulster Unionists seemingly set to vote against the Government in protest against the framework document on Northern Ireland, the whipless Tories hold the key to the vote, which will be swiftly followed by a confidence motion if the Government loses.

Yesterday they appeared split, with as many as four, including Tony Marlow, ready to vote against the Government, but with the others inclined to abstain. Such an outcome could mean Mr Major losing by three votes.

The Prime Minister's olive branch was brandished in *A Europe of Nations*, a manifesto for next year's "Maastricht II" conference on the future of Europe, drawn up by the European Research Group, right-wing politicians from Britain and 19 other European countries. His involvement stemmed from a private lunch with most of the dozen Tories in the group, which is led by Michael Spicer, a former minister and a thorn in his side over Maastricht.

The Prime Minister said the "strength" of the paper was that it represented the "distinctive opinions" of a group of European Parliamentarians. He also highlighted elements of the sceptic agenda, such as the need to make Europe more responsive to its people and to ensure it was competitive.

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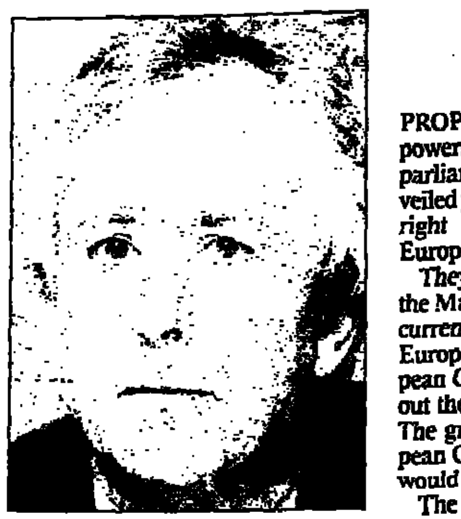
Manifesto demands curb on Brussels powers



Spicer: calls for protection of nation states' powers

By Nicholas Wood
Chief Political Correspondent

PROPOSALS aimed at transferring powers from Brussels to national parliaments and courts were unveiled yesterday by a group of centre-right politicians from across Europe.

They called for the scrapping of the Maastricht timetable for a single currency, tougher curbs on the European Parliament and the European Commission, and the phasing-out the common agricultural policy. The growing tendency of the European Court of Justice to make policy would be halted.

The proposals, which amount to a call for a new constitutional settlement in Europe, have been drawn up by the European Research Group, comprising more than 70 MPs and senators from 28 centre-right parties in 20 European countries.

The group, which includes 12 Conservatives and is chaired by Michael Spicer, a former minister and Maastricht rebel, wants the British and other governments to take up its 40-page manifesto at next year's "Maastricht II" summit to decide the destiny of the European Union. The pamphlet, *A Europe of Nations*, also sets out detailed treaty amendments putting its ideas into practice.

Mr Spicer said yesterday that its 49 recommendations, which cover every aspect of the Community's affairs, were in line with the thinking of 95 per cent of Conservative MPs and the majority of the British people. In a speech today in Reading, he will say that only by protecting the powers of nation states against Brussels can the drift to a federal Europe be halted.

The manifesto calls for a multi-track Europe in which member states are free to decide whether they pool sovereignty with their partners on matters of common interest, such as transport or defence. This is the idea of "variable geometry" backed by John Major, who has written the foreword to the pamphlet.

The manifesto says: "The Union cannot flourish if its member states are forced against their will to participate in policies which are not in their interests. Groups of states should be able to integrate some policies without the unanimous consent of all members. This will not only prevent countries from being forced to apply policies which they do not favour: it will also mean that countries which wish to pursue deeper integration cannot be held back by the veto of more reluctant states."

Legal changes to stop Brussels from encroaching on national sovereignty should be made, it says. National parliaments and governments should reign supreme in areas such as welfare, taxation, local government, foreign affairs, defence, immigration, education, health, industrial relations and law.

A Europe of Nations (European Research Group, G24 Norman Shaw North, House of Commons, London SW1A 0AA; 0171-219 3491)

Excuse for refusing to talk to Sinn Fein 'could jeopardise peace process'

Mayhew increases pressure on IRA to hand over weapons

By Nicholas Watt, Ireland Correspondent

SIR Patrick Mayhew stepped up pressure on the IRA to surrender its weapons yesterday when he said no ministers would meet Sinn Fein until "substantial progress" is made on the arms issue.

The comments by the Northern Ireland Secretary, which came as Sinn Fein held its annual conference in Dublin, were immediately condemned by Gerry Adams. The Sinn Fein president said the peace process was delicate and Sir Patrick's comments made him feel pessimistic.

Sir Patrick underlined the Government's determination to meet Unionist demands for the IRA to hand over its weapons when he said Sinn Fein could not enter full-scale talks while the IRA maintained its arsenal. His comments came after demands at the Sinn Fein conference for the party to meet ministers at multiparty talks on the future of Northern Ireland.

But the Northern Ireland Secretary told BBC's *Breakfast with Frost*: "If somebody comes to the negotiating table with other constitutional parties but is known to have Semtex, ground-to-air missiles, heavy machine-guns, mortars and so on, the implication is absolutely inescapable that they are prepared to resort to violence if they don't get what they want round the table."

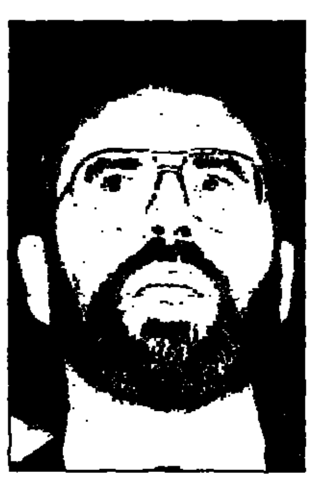
However, Sir Patrick he held out hope of progress when he said the Government was "not in the business of close definitions" on the issue of weapons.

Mr Adams said the Government was talking to him down the barrel of a gun and he called for the decommissioning of weapons by all sides. He added that Sir Patrick's excuse for refusing to talk to Sinn Fein was a factor that could jeopardise the peace process.

The issue of arms has been one of the main stumbling blocks in the exploratory talks between Sinn Fein and British officials which began in Belfast just before Christmas. The Government has told Sinn Fein that it cannot be treated as a fully fledged constitutional party until the IRA hands over at least some of its weapons.

John Major has said he does not expect the IRA to surrender its weapons to the security forces in Northern Ireland and the Government would be prepared to accept a "token" handing over of arms in the Republic.

However, it is understood that the exploratory talks have reached deadlock because the two sides have failed to agree a formula that would meet the Prime Minister's insistence on verifiable decommissioning of weapons.



Adams: tried to dampen expectations

At the Sinn Fein conference at Mansion House in Dublin at the weekend the party leadership gave a guarded welcome to last week's Anglo-Irish framework document on the future of Northern Ireland. Mr Adams tried to dampen the movement's expectations that the document would secure their demands when he portrayed it as an important interim measure on the way to a united Ireland.

He conceded that the ceasefire had been "unsettling, difficult and traumatic" for many republicans but he attempted to steer opponents of the ceasefire away from supporting violence when he said that the movement must become "guarantors of the peace process".

Security forces and ministers in Northern Ireland will be studying the speeches at the conference to gauge support within the movement for the IRA ceasefire. Only three members of the party spoke out against the truce and the leadership appears to have widespread support as the ceasefire reaches its sixth month next week.

Martin McGuinness, who is leading the Sinn Fein delegation in its exploratory talks with the Government, said last night that he expected to hold talks with senior British ministers within weeks. In a closing speech to the conference he said the exploratory talks would soon be concluded after the issue of republican prisoners has been discussed.

The McCrory family, from the Shankill Road, is against the latest initiative

Family unites to reject Anglo-Irish document

From Edward Gorman
in Belfast

THE McCrory family lives not only within the physical bounds of west Belfast's loyalist ghetto but within its psychological straitjacket too.

In the McCrory household, amid the rundown terraced streets of the Shankill Road, words like hope or progress have long since been discarded from the vocabulary. Perhaps the most depressing aspect is the uniformity of views across the generations. Marion McCrory, 69, and her 21-year-old grandson Mark Irvine, both reject the Anglo-Irish framework document outright.

To Marion, whose early childhood was spent in the lost glory days of the Protestant Ascendancy after Partition, the merest mention of the latest offering from London and Dublin draws a fearful shudder. "It's hopeless," she said. There's nobody wants peace more than I do. The other side, I mean Gerry Adams and those cowboys, they just want everything and they are getting it."

Mark, who has known nothing but violence in his short life, displays the same belief in betrayal. "It's all one sided from what I've heard — it's completely nationalist. They say Dublin has dropped their claim to Northern Ireland but the way Sinn Fein are going, they are getting what they want. Mr Major is buying them off from bombing the mainland and we are left to suffer for it," he said.

Mark and his grandmother also believe that the ceasefire is merely a brief respite before a new phase of violence. "I think we'll move to civil war again, so we will — in under two years we'll be back to the same violence," Mark said.

Marion's son Alfie, born in 1956, can recall at least part of a childhood of relative tranquillity. Alfie, unemployed for the past ten years but active in the local community, dismisses the document but is determined that the talking should continue.

"I would say it would be very hard to put any document down that would please both sides. So scrap the document and sit down and talk and come up with something else," he said.

He summed up the identity of views in the family as follows. "My mother is 100 per cent against it. I'm 100 per cent against it and Mark is 100 per cent against it. We don't want to live in a united Ireland, we want to live in peace and be left to live in peace."

MP denies 'grants for votes' claims

By Nicholas Wood

ROGER GODSIFF, the Labour MP for Small Heath, who is at the centre of £2 million "grants for votes" allegations in Birmingham, called yesterday for a police investigation to clear his name. He denied that he had done anything illegal by helping constituents to jump the queue for housing renovation grants in the city.

But against the background of claims that Mr Godsiff, whose seat disappears at the next election, had favoured Labour Party members crucial to his hopes of being selected for the neighbouring Sparkbrook constituency, he said he would ask Ron Hadfield, the West Midlands Chief Constable, to order an investigation.

"I think this is all a gross distortion. It is slurs by implication and needs to be investigated in order to clear things up." Mr Godsiff spoke out as Labour leaders at party headquarters in London and in Birmingham announced separate inquiries.

Tom Sawyer, Labour general secretary, said: "These are very serious allegations and I will be initiating an immediate inquiry. I have no intention of allowing misconduct of any individual member of the party to harm the reputation of Birmingham Council or the Birmingham Labour Party."

Theresa Stewart, Labour leader of Birmingham City Council, said: "I consider the queue-jumping allegations a serious matter. I have been told there is a significant number of Labour Party members involved. There is a big issue here. It will not be swept under the carpet. The matter will be investigated by both the chief executive and the district auditor."

The allegations arise out of the system the council uses to process applications for renovation grants of up to £20,000. Because of cash restrictions, it has set up an informal queue for applicants. But Mr Godsiff and local Labour councillors have helped people to jump the queue by advising them to fill in official forms, which have to be processed in six months.

Boxer's hope of survival

Continued from page 1

vin and Bearsden, yesterday renewed calls for professional boxing to be banned. But the Department of Health said yesterday: "If we banned boxing it would go underground, and it would not be regulated as it is now."

Benn was examined at the same hospital, the Royal London, after the bout for exhaustion and a suspected broken jaw but then released and went home.

Mr Sutcliffe operated on McClellan on Saturday night, removing a blood clot of about 3in by 2in. "It would be fair to say he is stable," he said yesterday, "but things could take a change for the better or worse over the next 48 to 72 hours. "I think there is a good chance that he will survive, unless any other problems develop during the next 24 to 48 hours.

McClelland's family, including his son and daughter, left Freeport, Illinois, yesterday to fly to London to be with him.

Mr Sutcliffe, who operated on the London-based boxer Bradley Stone before his death in April last year, said it was too early to say what problems McClellan might face. "It's difficult at this stage to predict any damage there may have been from the effects of the pressure [on his brain]."

Mr Sutcliffe said the fighter was minutes from death when he arrived at the hospital. His injuries were very similar to those of Stone last year. "The blood clot was very much alike, but Bradley's was slightly bigger. The crucial feature that will allow Gerald to survive is that he got here quicker."

Thomas Stuttaford, page 4
Srikumar Sen, page 23

Squadron leader 'to blame for Prince's crash'

By Michael Evans
Defence Correspondent

AN RAF squadron leader is expected to be blamed for allowing the Prince of Wales to keep control of a BAe 146 jet which overshot the runway after coming in to land on the Scottish island of Islay in June last year.

The Queen's Flight passenger jet with Prince Charles in the pilot seat and 11 people on board touched down too late and too fast, sources said. It thundered down the runway, ending up nose-down and leaning on one side in grass at the end of the 5,000ft runway in a peat bog. Three of the tyres burst on landing. The RAF sources said the Prince decided to make the landing despite difficulties on his final approach.

The Ministry of Defence said yesterday that the report of the inquiry into the incident had not yet been published and refused to name the RAF officer who was the Prince's co-pilot. However, a leak of the board of inquiry findings indicated that the squadron leader, who was in overall command of the aircraft, should have taken control when it was clear the landing was causing difficulties. The four-engine passenger jet touched down too late and too fast, according to the leaked report.

The drama happened as the Prince tried twice to land the BAe 146 in strong winds on the island in the Inner Hebrides. The board of inquiry is understood to have ruled that responsibility for the incident rested with the squadron leader, sitting to the left of the Prince in the cockpit of the £30 million aircraft.

One source said: "The guy on the left should have shouted out to His Royal Highness and said, 'I have control'. But how do you shout that to the heir to the throne, effectively saying 'I'm sorry mate, but you've got it wrong?'" The source added: "But by the strict letter of the law, he was the man in charge and the buck stops with him."

After the landing the Prince made light of the episode, telling local children: "It wasn't quite a crash. We went off the end of the runway, unfortunately. It is not something I recommend happening all the time."

The damaged jet remained on Islay for seven weeks for detailed examination and for repairs before it was flown back to RAF Benson, in Oxfordshire. The cost of the damage has not been revealed but is estimated to be around £1 million. The aircraft went back into service with the Royal Flight in January.

MPs face suspension for cash questions

The House of Commons Privileges Committee is likely to recommend tough punishment this week for two Conservative MPs who have been accused of taking cash in return for asking questions in the House. MPs on the committee have been alarmed by the seriousness of the breaches of Commons rules, both by MPs and journalists. Sanctions against MPs could range from an admonishment to a suspension from the Commons.

Climbers warned

The Mountaineering Council for Scotland has warned outdoor enthusiasts not to set foot on the hills in winter without crampons, an ice axe and the knowledge of how to use them, after one of the worst months on record for casualties.

Clinic closes

The Thomas Cook Travel Clinic, which up to 10,000 travellers a year use to obtain instant vaccinations and preventive drugs, is to close this week as part of a cost cutting drive by the travel agency. The clinic was set up in London 16 years ago.

Last service

The Rev Kit Chalcraft, a vicar dismissed because he wants to marry for a third time, conducted his last Sunday service in a tiny 11th century church in rural Norfolk yesterday. Mr Chalcraft is scheduled to leave the vicarage shortly.

Director dead

The film director Jack Clayton, whose work included *Room at the Top* and *The Great Gatsby*, died at the age of 73 on Saturday after a short illness. The director Michael Winner said: "England has lost one of its great creative geniuses."

Lottery jackpot

One winner will take a jackpot prize of £7,056,280 for last week's National Lottery, according to Camelot, the organisers. Forty-five won £48,248 each for five numbers and the bonus; 1,135 each win £1,195 for five numbers.

Winning numbers, page 22

CORRECTION

Our report (January 24) of the demands for the release of Private Lee Clegg, the paratrooper jailed for killing a joyrider in Belfast, contained comments from the previous day's press conference by Mr Simon McKay which were critical of the handling of his defence.

He claimed that the question whether Clegg had fired the fatal bullet had not been adequately investigated or tested in evidence, and that the ballistic evidence was unsatisfactory and had not been properly challenged.

Clegg's solicitors, Messrs McCartan Turkington Breen of Belfast, and his counsel entirely reject any suggestion that they were at fault in conducting his defence in the Crown Court and on appeal, whether in investigating the case, in collecting and analysing the evidence or in challenging the case put forward by the prosecution.

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Crisis grips City as 200-year-old merchant bank nears collapse after trader's huge losses

Empire's financier last faced disaster a century ago

By Alan Hamilton

A HUNDRED years ago London's oldest-established merchant bank last teetered on the edge of collapse and the City judged it the worst financial crisis there since the South Sea Bubble in 1720.

Financier to the British Empire and confidant of foreign governments, Barings faced possible ruin in 1890 after raising £95 million for overseas borrowers, with Argentina at the top of its list. In the late Victorian age, South America held the same appeal for speculators as do the tiger economies of the Pacific Rim in the 1990s.

The Argentine loan began to look distinctly shaky, with South American borrowers defaulting to create the bust that follows boom. Bank rates went up from 3 to 5 per cent to protect British gold reserves.

THE BANK

Lombard Street was alive with rumour that a major house was in trouble. Barings was forced to declare that its liabilities amounted to £21 million, more than twice the entire reserves of the Bank of England. Queen Victoria noted in her diary: "Lord Revelstoke [Barings' chairman] had rashly and credulously put all he had into these Argentine mines or works, and had been cheated by the Argentine agents who had come to him."

A rescue operation was mounted by the Bank of England and leading City institutions, which raised a £17.1 million fund — about £450 million in today's money, much the same as this weekend's reported losses — to guarantee Barings' debts.

Within four years Barings had discharged its debt and resumed its position as one of the most powerful banking houses in Europe. In 1903, a German diplomat reported to Berlin: "Anyone who wants to place a loan in London on a grand scale must apply to the Barings." But the 1890 crisis had one lasting effect on the bank: the partnership of the Baring brothers was dissolved, to be replaced by a limited company.

Sir Francis Baring: built foundations of business

Originally from The Netherlands, the Baring family moved to Bremen in north Germany, from where Johann Baring emigrated to England in 1717. He settled in Exeter, married a local girl, and conducted a modest business as a wool merchant. But Devon was too sleepy for his three sons, who moved to London to operate as wool and general merchants on a grander scale.

Francis, the most ambitious son, became a director and eventually chairman of the East India Company. Elected to Parliament, he was created a baronet by William Pitt in 1793. Guided by experts in Amsterdam, then the financial capital of the world, Sir Francis established a bank in 1762, and rapidly expanded from merely financing the wool trade into shipping and all aspects of international trade.

From then, there was no stopping the Barings. One of Sir Francis's sons went to the fledgling United States of America, married into its emergent high society, and negotiated the Louisiana Purchase from France. He came home to be created the first Lord Ashburton and appointed Chancellor of the Exchequer. In Europe, the Barings arranged loans to France for reparations after Waterloo: they became financial agents for both the United States and Imperial Russian governments, and issued bonds for the governments of China and Japan.

Such was their influence in the High Victorian age that the Duc de Richelieu, French soldier and statesmen, was moved to declare: "There are six great powers in Europe: England, France, Russia, Austria, Prussia and the Baring brothers." In the heyday of empire, the Barings financed every major commodity from Malayan rubber to Australian wool, together with the ships that bore the produce of the colonies and dominions to Britain.

But their dealings were not confined to the red parts of the map. In 1922 they raised a £10 million loan for the government of Czechoslovakia, then an infant state born out of the collapse of the Austro-Hungarian Empire. In 1959, still owed £240,000 by what had become a Communist government, the bank's managing director flew to Prague and, after days of frustrating confrontation with bureaucrats who denied all knowledge of the debt, finally managed to recover all but £60,000 of it.

In more recent years the Barings were overtaken in size and influence by other City merchant banking houses, but retained an impressive portfolio of blue-chip clients. In 1985, ownership — although not control — of the bank was passed to the Baring Foundation, a charity which does good works largely in east London.

Barings survived the City crash of 1989, but has found the 1990s tough going. Two years ago Christopher Heath, head of its securities arm, resigned in the midst of a policy dispute and a halving of the Baring group's annual profits to a paltry £12 million. There was worse to come.

City crisis, page 1

The founders of Barings, Sir Francis Baring, his brother John and son-in-law Charles Wall, from an 1806 painting by Sir Thomas Lawrence

Influence goes beyond world of finance

By Alan Hamilton

NOT since the Middle Ages has one family aspired so successfully to the ranks of the British aristocracy as the Barings. Although most of this vast clan no longer have any direct connection with the bank, they can still boast five peerages — those of Ashburton, Cromer, Howick, Northbrook and Revelstoke, all Barings to a man.

Their influence has extended far beyond the intimate world of City finance, in which, as Protestants of distantly Dutch origin, they rose to power in a community dominated by the great Jewish banking families.

The present Lord Ashburton, formerly Sir John Baring, is chairman of British Petroleum, Britain's largest company, and has sat on the boards of the Bank of England, Jaguar, Dunlop and Royal Insurance. Another Baring, who became the first Lord Cromer, ran Egypt as a personal fiefdom in colonial days; his son Evelyn became governor-general of Kenya, the last proconsul of empire, and was created Lord Howick for his services.

The third Earl of Cromer, who died in 1991, took the Baring name to Washington, where he was British ambassador, and subsequently to the Bank of England, where he was governor. Thomas Baring, created the first Lord Northbrook, was Viceroy of India and subsequently First Lord of the Admiralty.

The unlikeliest people claim a family connection: the Princess of Wales is the great-granddaughter of a Baring. Another descendant is Richard Ingrams, proprietor of *The Oldie* magazine and former editor of *Private Eye*.

The Baring family crest

Since its earliest days in England, when the bank's founder was financial adviser to William Pitt, the family has moved in the highest circles. Seven have become directors of the Bank of England, one a Chancellor of the Exchequer, and one was until recently receiver-general to the Duchy of Cornwall, thereby an adviser to the Prince of Wales.

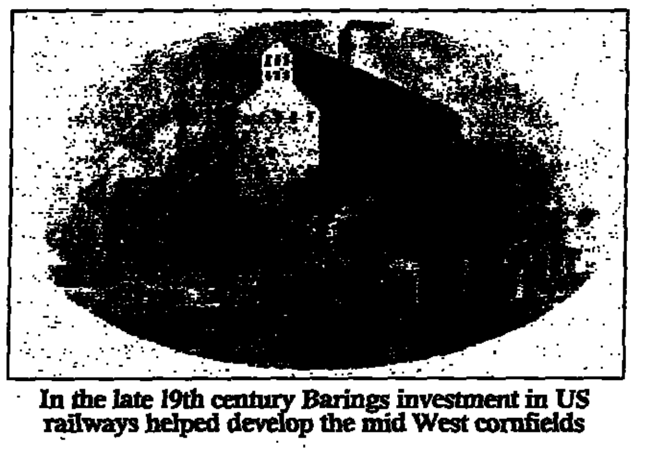
Inevitably in such a rich, widespread and powerful family, the name of Baring makes frequent appearances in the gossip columns. While at Eton in the 1980s Alexander Baring, son of the present Lord Ashburton, gained brief notoriety when he was fined £87 for dodging his train fare.

More recently his distant cousin Samantha Baring, then 23, had her name linked romantically with the 46-year-old Christopher Heath, a married man and head of the bank's securities division until a policy dispute forced him to resign from his £3 million-a-year post.

Anthony Baring, another distant cousin, is married to the daughter of the actor Joss Ackland. Yet another, Katherine Baring, who suffers from multiple sclerosis, was married to the unemployed Alexander Slack for only seven months before he sold intimate details of his previous liaison with Serena Stanhope, now married to Viscount Linley.

But the most famous family socialite of recent years has been yet another cousin, Clarissa Baring, who was expelled from two boarding schools when young, who addressed the Queen at a reception as "Janet Brown" (an actress noted for her impersonations) and who finally admitted to drug addiction.

"A lot of the reasons upper-class kids get into drugs is because they are so bloody arrogant they think drugs won't hook them," Miss Baring said with a rare and perceptive candour.



In the late 19th century Barings investment in US railways helped develop the mid West cornfields

Barings issued sterling bonds in 1909 and 1910 on behalf of the New York Telephone Company

Bank mounts rescue

Continued from page 1

takeover from rival Glaxo. It has a successful securities operation, with particular strength in trading emerging markets securities.

In October last year it bucked the trend among merchant banks by unveiling an increase in its pre-tax profits of 54 per cent, to £54.8 million. Other banks have suffered declining profits after turbulence in the American and Western European securities and bond markets.

Barings' strength in Asia had been expected to shield the bank from such problems. Directors appeared on course to receive large bonuses after the publication of the bank's full year results, expected in two weeks.

News of Barings' demise, should the rescue attempt fail, would fuel concerns among international bank regulators about the use of derivatives.

Barings is the latest in a line of derivatives market victims. Last year Orange County, in California, filed for protection from its creditors in an American bankruptcy court after disclosing investment losses estimated at $1.69 billion (£1.07 billion).

Gambles that make fools and fortunes

By Neil Bennett, deputy business editor

IN recent years a succession of the world's largest banks and industrial companies have lost billions of pounds in the rapidly developing market of derivatives trading. In many cases the losses have been run up by dealers overstepping their authority in the hope of amassing huge profits for their firm and slipping through the firms' inadequate safety procedures.

The term derivatives, a key piece of the financial world's jargon, describes a whole range of financial products. They are financial deals that allow an investor to buy or sell something at an agreed price at a fixed date in the future. Different derivatives such as options, futures and swaps can be traded in a whole range of commodities, from sugar and oil to financial products like foreign exchange and even interest rates.

Trading in derivatives has grown exponentially in recent years as the world's financial markets have developed, and many international banks trade hundreds of billions of pounds in futures and options each year. When properly used, derivatives can act as a vital insurance policy for investors. Every fixed rate mortgage relies on a derivative. The bank or building society that sells the mortgage must convert ordinary floating rate borrowings into fixed rate debt using a derivative called a swap. Large export firms rely on foreign currency futures to prevent themselves losing out if the pound strengthens, while food companies trade heavily in commodity markets to guarantee uninterrupted supplies of raw materials at stable prices.

But derivatives are also used to gamble on the financial markets because they are volatile and can collapse as worthless or double in value almost overnight. Many traders have made fortunes speculating on the futures market that the dollar will fall or the stock market will rise. But just as many have lost fortunes.

The difficulty with derivatives lies in their complexity. Foreign exchange futures and swaps can often involve three or more currencies, and a large investment bank could have tens of thousands of derivative contracts on its books at any one time. As a result it is often difficult for a bank to determine how much risk it is taking.

Large investment banks installed computer systems to track their derivatives exposure and ensure risks were contained. A lack of adequate systems has meant that other banks and companies have been hit by huge losses. Often by the time they learn about illicit trading activities of staff, it is too late.

Sunday suits only clue to turmoil

YOU could not have blamed the tourists strolling through the sunlit City of London yesterday for not realising that they were meandering through the capital's biggest financial crisis in a decade (Joe Joseph writes). Most probably had no idea as they walked past Baring Brothers' head office in Bishopsgate what a "derivative" was.

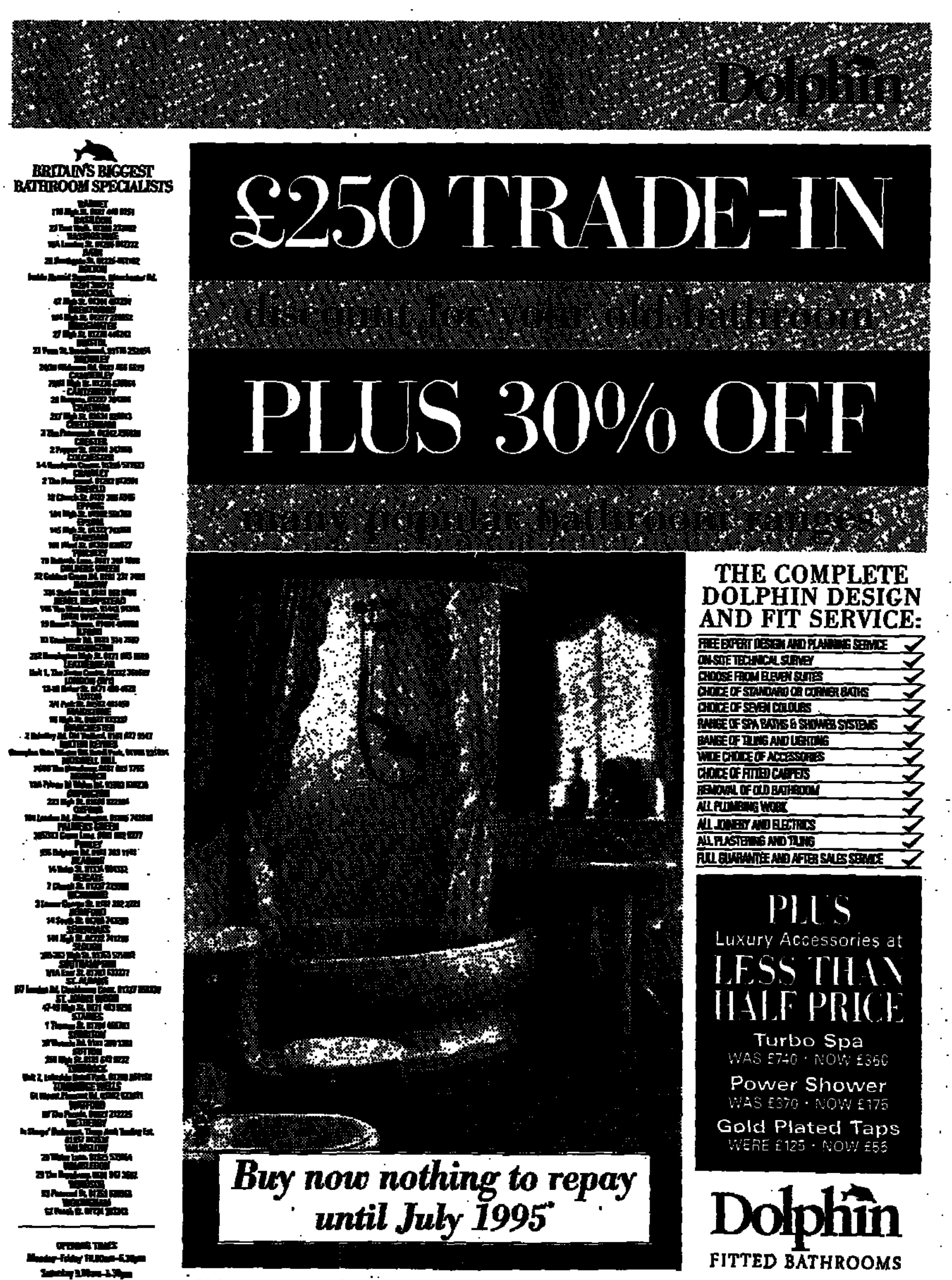
A small posse of photographers and television crews loitering outside the smoked-glass building struggled to frame anything in their lenses that captured the depth of the crisis indoors: a few men in suits coming and going in shiny Mercedes and limousines were all that betrayed the hair-tearing hullabaloo that had been raging inside since Friday.

THE CITY

The employee allegedly responsible for the £400 million loss is believed to have run into trouble with about 16,000 oustanding contracts on Nikkei stock index futures, traded on the Singapore International Monetary Exchange and the Osaka stock market.

These contracts change hands for between $180,000 and $200,000 apiece, which means that he had close to $3 billion of Barings money hanging on the line. City sources were indicating that he ran into trouble when the Nikkei index kept falling: they say he invented false contracts to hedge and camouflage his losses, hoping that a recovery in Tokyo share prices would bail him out.

But the Nikkei kept sinking. And now that traders in Tokyo know what has been going on, it is likely to sink further, swelling Barings' losses. That is why the Bank of England was struggling: it must not only find someone to take over Barings' current headaches, it has to guarantee to provide financial painkillers for the migraines that will follow.



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Many sports can be dangerous, but only in boxing does brain damage appear to be the object

Why 'safer' boxing will not prevent head injury

By Dr Thomas Stuttaford

MEDICAL BRIEFING

THE plight of Gerald McClellan, the boxer injured in Saturday night's fight with Nigel Benn, is little different from that of all the other young men in the head neurosurgical wards — only the way in which he achieved his injuries separates him from the other patients.

Head injury is the leading cause of death in males under 35. Survival is as much, if not more, dependent on the nature of the injury as on the efficiency of the treatment, so the boxing board's decision to provide medical teams by the ring and ambulances ready to take them to neuro-surgical units will not do any more than modify the chance of survival. Mortality from severe head injuries is up 50 per cent and many of those who live *are permanently* damaged.

When discussing head injuries previously I have been taken to task by purists for using the term "recovery". After a severe head injury the word is relative; some residual damage is inevitable even if it is not readily apparent.

In head injuries the damage *is caused not only by the direct* impact on the skull but by rapid brain acceleration and deceleration after the head has been hit. The greatest injury may be adjacent to the point of impact but the other side of the brain suffers too: such damage is described as a *contre-coup* injury.

The brain, as the British Medical Association has described, has the consistency of blancmange, so a blow to *the head smashes it against* the skull opposite the point of impact. The less tightly the brain fits into the bony skull the more room there is for it to slop around within the cavity and the greater will be the damage to the brain tissue.

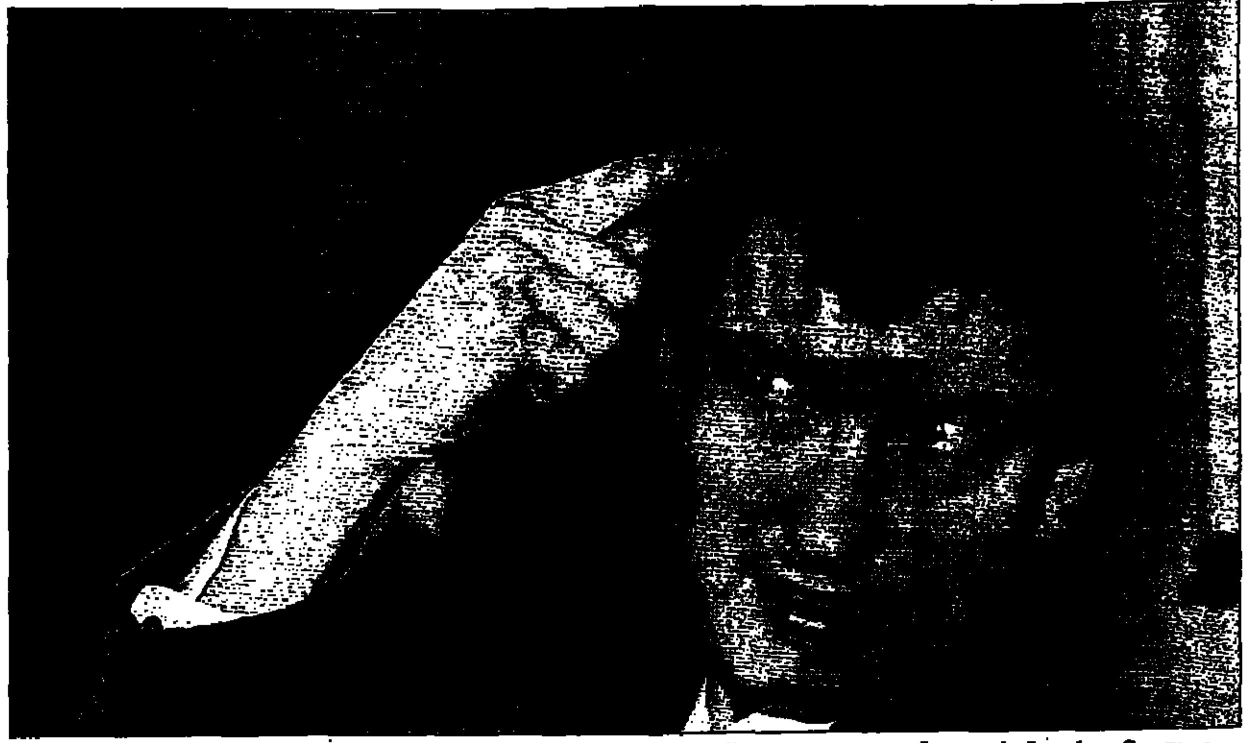
Blood vessels will be ruptured, the meninges (coverings) of the brain will be torn and the neurones will be bruised or destroyed. The blood from the haemorrhage accumulates in pockets within the skull, where the clot acts like any other mass, the pressure from which will, if the blood is not evacuated surgically, cause further damage.

There is a school of thought which says that head injuries are common in young men because dangerous sports at *that time of life not only reflect* their adventurous spirit but are important in forming their character. The argument is that the young men who are prepared to risk their brain cells motorcycling on the M4, climbing Scottish mountains or boxing are the same people who, if the need arose, would lead their fellows in a yomp across the Falklands. The difference between head injuries acquired in most sporting activities and those from boxing is that brain damage is incidental to motorcycling or mountaineering. In boxing, it would seem to be part of the object to batter an opponent's brain until he is rendered unconscious.

It is argued that if helmets can be designed to absorb the impact when a motorcyclist's head hits the tarmac, and a compulsory hard hat has minimalised head injuries when riding, why should it not be possible to design a helmet to render professional boxing safer, if not safe? A helmet could be designed but this would be *only part* of the answer.

No helmet would overcome the damage caused by the increasing muscular strength of the boxer and his sophisticated training, for it is the repeated blows to the head which cause the acceleration and deceleration injuries and it is this pummelling which stirs the blancmange with such terrible results. These injuries would be reduced if there was no dehydration before weigh-in so that the brain sealed the skull closely, and if the amount of damage done could be reduced by restricting the number of rounds fought.

Gerald McClellan lies in hospital. Pressure on his brain *has been reduced by surgery*, his injuries have been mapped out with scanning, his airways have been secured, his respiration assisted, his blood pressure, pulse, temperature and fluid balance are constantly recorded and maintained, but it is only time and, if necessary, *further surgery, which* will determine whether he will survive or if he is destined to become another victim of individual combat, just as much a victim as a vanquished bird in a 19th-century cockfight.



John Sutcliffe, the neurosurgeon who operated on Gerald McClellan, at a press conference in London. Surgery has reduced pressure on the boxer's brain, but the next 48 hours are likely to be vital to his chances of survival

Surgeon hopeful, page 1
Srikumar Sen, page 23

Gordievsky tells of fleeing KGB in boot of car

By Michael Evans, Defence Correspondent

OLEG GORDIEVSKY, the former senior KGB officer who defected to Britain in 1985, has disclosed for the first time how he escaped from Moscow when his spymasters suspected him of being an MI6 double agent.

Mr Gordievsky had not been allowed to disclose how he left the Soviet Union with MI6's help because of the risk of compromising an escape route for future defectors. However, in his book to be published next month, he says that he took a train to Leningrad after throwing off his KGB "watchers" and was eventually smuggled into Finland in the boot of a car driven by an *MI6 officer* and two women.

The disclosure, in a serialised version of his book, *Next Stop Execution*, in *The Sunday Times*, came as Michael Foot issued a writ for libel against the newspaper, which alleged last week that he was *considered by the KGB* to be an "agent of influence".

The former Labour Party leader, who denies the allegations, said: "No charge could be more damaging for me and for my party. Apart even from oaths of allegiance or anything of that official character, the Labour Party takes a special, legitimate pride in its democratic allegiance, its commitment to serve the people in this country."

Mr Gordievsky's book will also give details of how he says the KGB tortured him with drugs to make him confess his betrayal. It describes his time as a KGB officer in Denmark, where he became an MI6 double agent, his struggle to get a transfer to the British desk at KGB headquarters in Moscow and his early career in espionage.

When he fled Russia his escape instructions were contained inside two hardback English novels. He says he was told to wait at a street corner, holding a Safeway carrier bag, until his presence was acknowledged by a person who would be "chewing" something as he passed. Then he had to leave a message at St Basil's Cathedral in Red Square.

It took two attempts before MI6 realised he was in trouble and needed to escape. A man carrying a Harrods bag and eating a Mars bar was the first MI6 contact.

Mr Gordievsky said he took a train to Leningrad, picked up a *connection to a town* called Zelenogorsk and then a bus to Viborg, the town closest to the Finnish border. There he waited for his MI6 contacts in a forest, fearful that the KGB would find him.

He was told later that as he lay in the boot of the car being *driven* to freedom across the border, "high-powered" officials met in the Foreign Office to "pray" for the success of the operation.

Gordievsky: escape tale

Hong Kong history buff buys barony

By A Staff Reporter

A SCOTTISH castle and barony title has been bought by a Hong Kong solicitor.

Ma Ching Nam has paid £330,000 for the 17th century Mounie Castle near Oldmeldrum, Grampian and the right to call himself Baron Ma of Mounie. He will also *be able to apply to the Lord* Lyon, King of Arms, for the *grant of* armorial bearings. The arms can then be inherited by the baron's heirs.

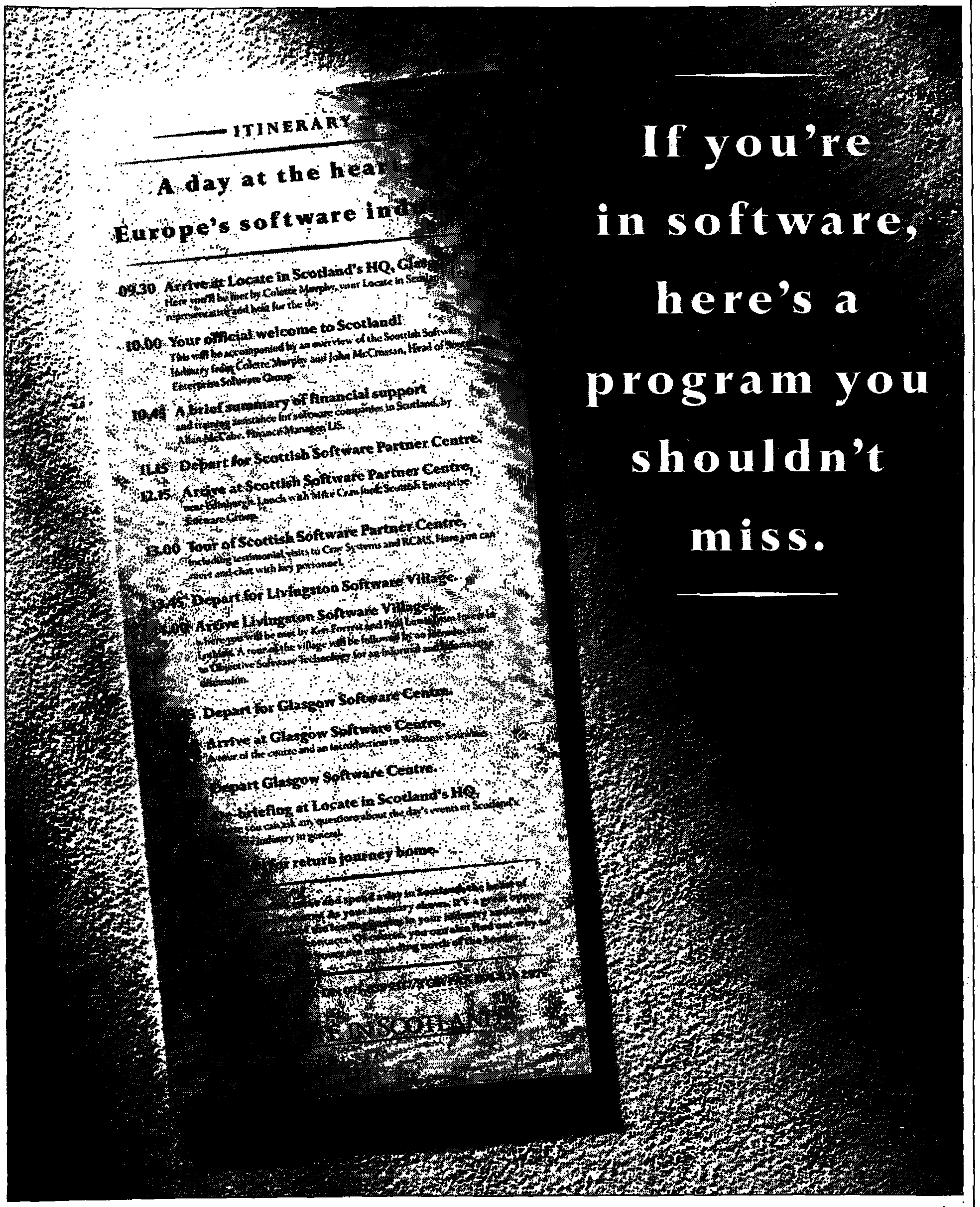
Mr Ma, from Hong Kong's Happy Valley district, said that he was not interested in the title but in the *castle's history. "I have lived* and travelled quite extensively in the UK and obviously Scotland. There are some very nice parts which was the reason behind buying the castle." The title carries no powers and no right to sit in the House of Lords.

***The sale of Mounie, with 15* acres and the barony created a flurry of interest when it was put on the market in Hong Kong by Scottish solicitors for the vendor, a local vet, Jim Martin. Mr Alexander believed that the title was likely to have particular appeal for Hong Kong Chinese after the Hong Kong businesswoman and politician Lydia Dunn was created a baroness in 1990. However, in spite of considerable press interest and publicity, there were very few potential buyers, according to Mr Ma. "*Some of the* reporting put people off."**

Hong Kong Chinese and expatriate Scots in the colony alike have been looking for houses in Scotland as hedges against difficulties after the 1997 Chinese takeover. Edinburgh's Georgian New Town *has proved particularly* attractive.

Mr Ma, who in his mid-forties and is married with a small child, had a look round Mounie last year with his wife. The castle has five bedrooms, a main hall, library, sitting rooms and two *bathrooms. He is expected to* spend holidays there.

Mr Martin, who served in Hong Kong and the Far East with the Royal Army Veterinary Corps, said: "They were particularly nice. I am delighted to have sold to Mr Ma."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10.45 A brief summary of financial support
and training assistance for software companies in Scotland, by Alan McCabe, Finance Manager, LIS.

11.15 Depart for Scottish Software Partner Centre.

12.15 Arrive at Scottish Software Partner Centre,
near Edinburgh. Lunch with Mike Crawford, Scottish Enterprise Software Group.

13.00 Tour of Scottish Software Partner Centre,
including testimonial visits to Cray Systems and RCMS. Here you can meet and chat with key personnel.

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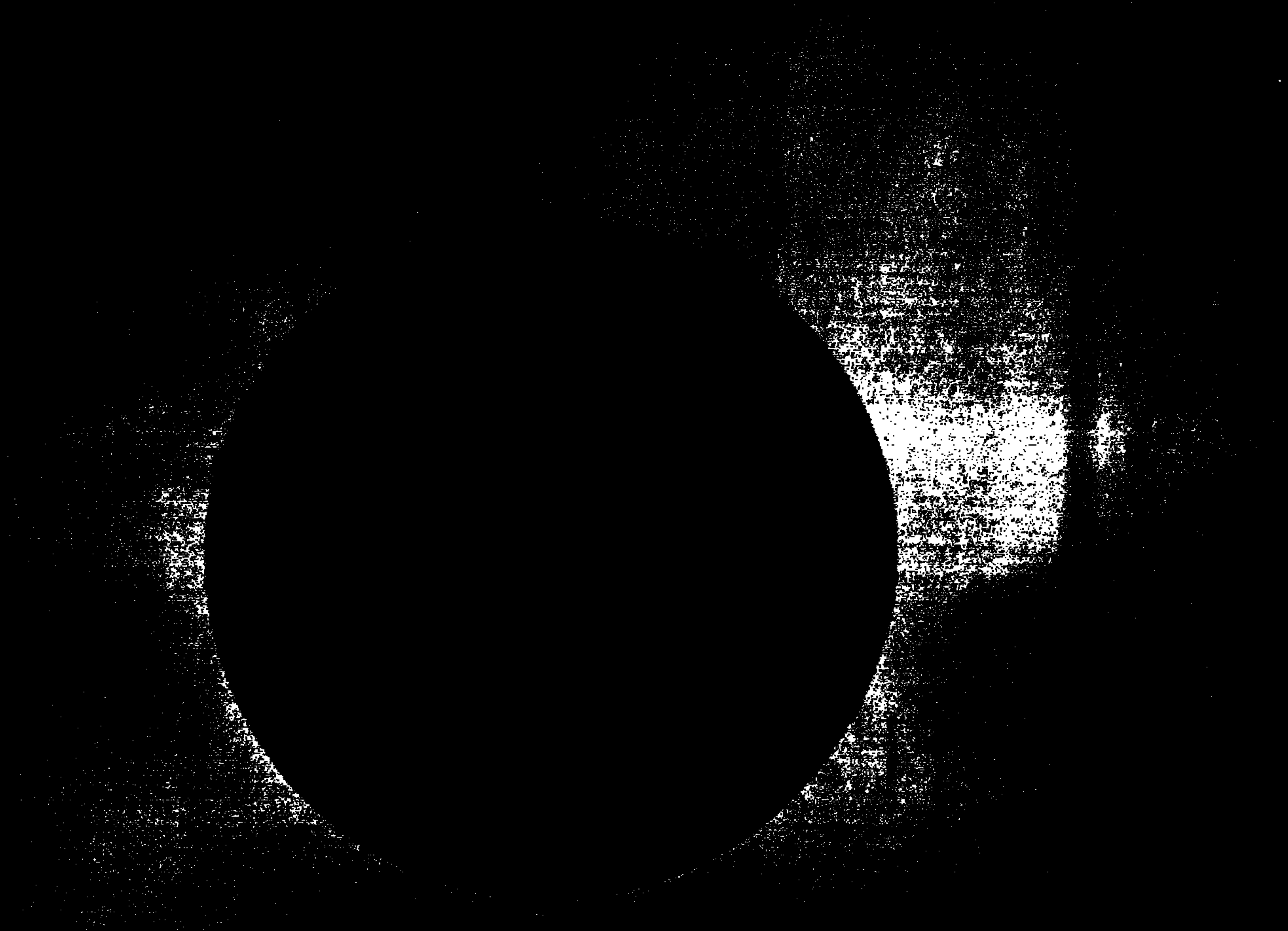

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Attenborough plant series leads BBC bid for sales growth

By Alexandra Frean, Media Correspondent

SIR David Attenborough's acclaimed natural history programme *The Private Life of Plants* will this week form the centrepiece of the BBC's biggest independent international sales drive.

The six-part series, which used pioneering time-lapse filming to examine the evolution of plants, goes on sale to foreign television stations today at BBC Showcase in Brighton, the biggest programme market mounted by any single broadcaster. Television stations in Italy, France, Germany, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden and China have put in orders worth nearly £1 million for the series, which took three years and cost £3 million to produce and was watched by more than 10 million viewers a week.

Susan Elkington, a sales director at BBC Worldwide Television, the corporation's commercial arm, said natural history programming sold well because its appeal transcended cultural boundaries. "BBC programmes do particularly well in the international market because our natural history unit in Bristol, which produces them, is light years ahead of anywhere else in terms of technical expertise," she said.

At least four new natural history short series, nine one-off documentaries and a 13-part series of the BBC1 programme *Wildlife on One* will be unveiled. They include *The Man Who Built The Ark*, a 50-minute tribute to the late Gerald Durrell, and *Great White Shark*, an hour-long documentary.

Because it does not date, natural history programming can continue to generate income years after it is screened at home. Sir David's 1993 series on wildlife in Antarctica, *Life in the Freezer*, has been sold to 28 countries and is still bringing in money. The same is true for Desmond Morris's series *The Human Animal*, which has been sold in 16 territories.

"Natural history programmes, like comedy classics such as *Fawlty Towers*, have a very long shelf life. Once the series has been sold to all terrestrial broadcasters, you can then work through formats such as satellite and cable channels, video and multimedia," Ms Elkington said.

This year's Showcase is of critical importance to the BBC, which is under intense political pressure to fulfil its role as a public service broadcaster producing edifying and educational programmes that also have popular appeal. The Government has told the BBC to exploit the commercial value of its programme library to supplement the income it receives from the licence fee.

The corporation is aiming for programme sales of about £18 million at this year's Showcase from the 600 hours of programming on display. A record 390 buyers from 196 companies in 40 countries will attend. Factual, entertainment and drama programmes made by the BBC will also be on sale, including *The Buccaneers*, the adaptation of Edith Wharton's unfinished novel.

Leading article, page 19

SIMON WALKER

Hardy: convinced English archers were drawn up along the entire battle front

No blood drawn in archery debate

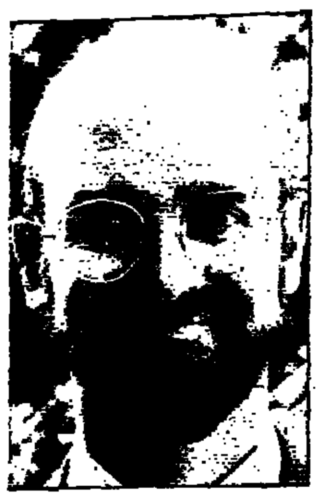
New battle of Agincourt ends in convivial truce

By Marianne Darch

BATTLE plans drawn up between two historical authorities were abandoned yesterday after a compromise was reached in a debate over tactics used by victorious English troops at the Battle of Agincourt in 1415.

Robert Hardy, the actor and authority on archery, who debated the subject with Matthew Bennett, senior lecturer in war studies at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst, said: "We are both sensible fellows and I think we are pretty well on the same side of the fence." They had been at odds over differing versions of the English tactics employed against French troops 580 years ago.

On October 25, 1415, the 25,000-strong army of Charles d'Albret, Constable of France, was defeated by an English force less than a quarter of its size, led by Henry V. Victory is credited to muddy conditions and English longbow archers who felled the French cavalry advancing between two woods, forcing them to retreat and become entangled with advancing troops.



Bennett: argued that crossfire caught French

Mr Hardy and Mr Bennett, concerned to identify the exact position of the archers in the debate "English Archery in the Hundred Years War", organised by the Battlefields Trust, conceded that archers in groups along the flanks of the English frontline probably dispersed as battle progressed.

Mr Bennett suggested that English men-at-arms were grouped in three phalanxes in the centre of the field with archers on the wings catching French troops in a crossfire.

Mr Hardy believed the archers were spread across the front "in a coronet". He said their average range was 350 yards, which would have made them unable to reach the centre of the enemy advance from peripheral position.

After a detailed discussion, Mr Bennett conceded that the debate had brought a "growing together of opinions". He said: "I am prepared to see some archers in the middle of the formation. I agree that there were not formal wedges. These people were not animated dummies, they did move around. It is important not to be too over-rigid."

Mr Hardy said: "It is important to keep one's mind open. I am glad to be able to embrace a convert. We disagree on very few details now and Agincourt is such a tricky battle."

One fact they did agree on was the inaccuracy in Laurence Olivier's 1944 screen version of Shakespeare's *Henry V*. Mr Hardy said Olivier told him not to refer to "his pretty football match" as an accurate model when making a documentary on the campaign.

Army keeps troops in barracks after deaths

From Michael Theodoulou in Nicosia

SIX hundred British soldiers serving with the Royal Green Jackets in Cyprus have been confined to barracks indefinitely, fearing a local backlash after a hit-and-run accident in which two students were killed.

Police said yesterday that charges would be brought against Lance Corporal Gareth Austin, 25, from Cornwall, whom they alleged ran away after his car collided with the students' moped early on Saturday morning. Khan Athar Hussain, 18, and his cousin Khan Amir, 21, died instantly. Another soldier, Rifleman Graham Beers, 22, was left injured in the passenger seat. He was taken to hospital with minor injuries after passersby raised the alarm.

The coastal strip outside Larnaca where the accident happened is a notorious blackspot where a Green Jacket was killed last year by a drunken Cypriot driver.

Police said they found Mr Austin sleeping at his home in Larnaca a few hours after the accident. He claimed he had fallen asleep at the wheel. The Army confirmed that he had defied a curfew imposed last September in deference to outraged local opinion after the killing of a Danish woman for which three Green Jackets are awaiting trial. The death of Louise Jensen, 23, followed complaints by Cypriots that drunken, ill-disciplined British soldiers were damaging relations with the local community.

On-the-spot fines plan for noisy neighbours

By Nicholas Wood

ROWDY householders face on-the-spot fines of up to £100 under proposals being drawn up by ministers to curb excessive noise.

The notices, modelled on parking tickets, would be issued by council officials called out to investigate complaints about parties, blaring televisions and music systems and domestic arguments. Disturbances exceeding a fixed decibel level between, say, midnight and 7am, might attract an immediate fine.

The aim is to replace the present cumbersome legal procedure for determining excessive noise with a system that would bring swift relief to victims. During the past three years at least 20 people have lost their lives in noise disputes. Some committed suicide and others were killed during confrontations with neighbours.

Robert Atkins, Environment Minister, is expected to issue a consultation paper within weeks. Legislation could follow in the autumn. The fines are one of the main proposals in a report from a working party, chaired by Mr Atkins and including representatives of the police, councils and Whitehall, which was set up in October.

In the Commons last week, John Major gave his backing to new efforts to curb noise, saying that he had no doubt of the extent of the nuisance caused to many people.

There may be opposition, however, from environmental health officers, who are reluctant to assume new monitoring and enforcement duties.

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RAC says council teams are winning

Capital test scheme eases parking in central London

By Ian Murray
Community Correspondent

The warden: upstaged by new regime

COUNCIL parking attendants are persuading drivers to obey restrictions or leave their cars at home, local authorities in London have found, six months into a trial scheme.

"Parking in central London is becoming easier as enforcement is tightened," according to Edmund King of the RAC. "People don't overstay the meter as much as before, they don't feed meters and they stay out of bays where they are not allowed to park." Under the scheme, councils keep the fines collected. Tickets, clamps and tow-away trucks are proving effective.

"Under the old regime, enforcement was so lax that people were prepared to take the risk of getting a ticket. Now they are learning it doesn't pay. Motorists who are not used to this tough line are in for quite a shock when the scheme goes nationwide."

Two years ago, the best estimate was that 3.8 million tickets would be issued in the 33 London boroughs each year after the scheme came into operation. Returns on the first six months, since last July, show that about third of that number have in fact been issued — 1.3 million tickets.

In Camden, one of London's busiest areas, the borough last July unofficially set a target of 300,000 tickets a year but in the first six months issued only 171,000. "The likelihood of being caught is now much greater and the number of offences has declined," a council spokesman said.

Camden is in the lead in trying to make parking offenders pay. Only half the tickets issued since July have been paid and the borough is trying to serve enforcement notices, which can lead to county court procedures if a penalty is ignored. The glut of prosecutions has swamped Camden's computer system, and paperwork is going astray. Taking responsibility for penalising offenders and collecting fines is meant to help boroughs to fund improved parking facilities and public transport. Councils also keep the profits from meter fees and parking bay permits. They have to strike a delicate balance between scaring off too many motorists and being too lax. "If you over-enforce you drive vehicles away and that is not economical," says Chris Page, of Granada Parking Services, one of the three main private contractors.

He denies that there is any kind of quota for issuing tickets although Granada has negotiated some contracts where the firm keeps a percentage of penalty charges. Elsewhere, there is an expected "industry norm" of tickets. Granada has won a contract from Avon County Council to patrol Bristol and Bath.

Sureway Parking, the third big contractor, also insists there is no quota system. "There is no proof it works for companies who try it," a spokesman says. "Our contracts work on the principles of easing traffic flow. Tickets are are not issued on the basis that they raise money."

Each week about 50,000 tickets are issued in London's 33 boroughs and each week 300 aggrieved motorists appeal against them to the Parking Appeals Centre. Most appeals are handled by an adjudicator reading evidence supplied by both sides but about ten times a day an appellant feels sufficiently aggrieved to turn up in person to argue the case.

In the year since the centre opened, Caroline Sheppard, a barrister who is chief adjudicator, and her team of part-time assistants have found in favour of the motorist about 60 per cent of the time. Usually those who lose an appeal pay their fine before leaving the centre and some even send a letter thanking her for explaining the regulations. Unlike any other court in England, the centre does not work on the adversarial process. Miss Sheppard adopts a confidential, friendly approach, like a consultant giving advice to a client.

[redacted]

The ruthless parking attendant at work:

- **Residents in a narrow Ealing street issued with tickets at 1am for parking overnight with two wheels on the pavement.**
- **A woman aged 93 had her car towed away at night to an ill-lit pound near King's Cross where she was too frightened to go and claim it.**
- **Mothers given tickets while dropping children at school in Kensington.**
- **Camden resident given ticket because six inches of his car, parked on his own land, were sticking out over the pavement.**
- **Motorists posted tickets after stopping for seconds at East Croydon station to let out passengers. This has been stopped.**
- **Woman required to pay pound removal fee of £125 after her car had been moved from a legal parking spot by vandals.**
- **Kensington parking bays too short to take average car, but motorists given tickets because vehicles overlapped line. Bays being remeasured.**
- **Confusion in Lincoln's Inn Field, which is in both Westminster and Camden, with different regulations on each side of same street. Motorists penalised for parking in one borough and inadvertently buying pay-and-display ticket in the other.**

The motorist's imagination at work:

- **A lift engineer claimed he had been flagged down to rescue a mother and child trapped in a high-rise lift; a motorist said he had mental blackouts which prevented him remembering if he had put money in a meter — and was cured when told he might lose his licence on medical grounds.**

Minister launches pollution purge

By Harvey Elliott

A PACKAGE of tough new measures to cut pollution and force dirty cars and lorries off the road will be unveiled today by the Transport Secretary, Dr Brian Mawhinney.

Permanent checkpoints are to be set up in "blackspots" and police given additional powers to order drivers of the worst vehicles off the road immediately. The measures are part of a significant shift towards a greener policy for transport of all types in the wake of the recent report by the Royal Commission on Environmental Pollution.

The quickest and most obvious improvement — and one which the Government is convinced will receive widespread support — is a crackdown on fumes given off by buses, lorries and cars. All older vehicles are tested for emissions during the MoT test but many drivers ignore the problem between tests.

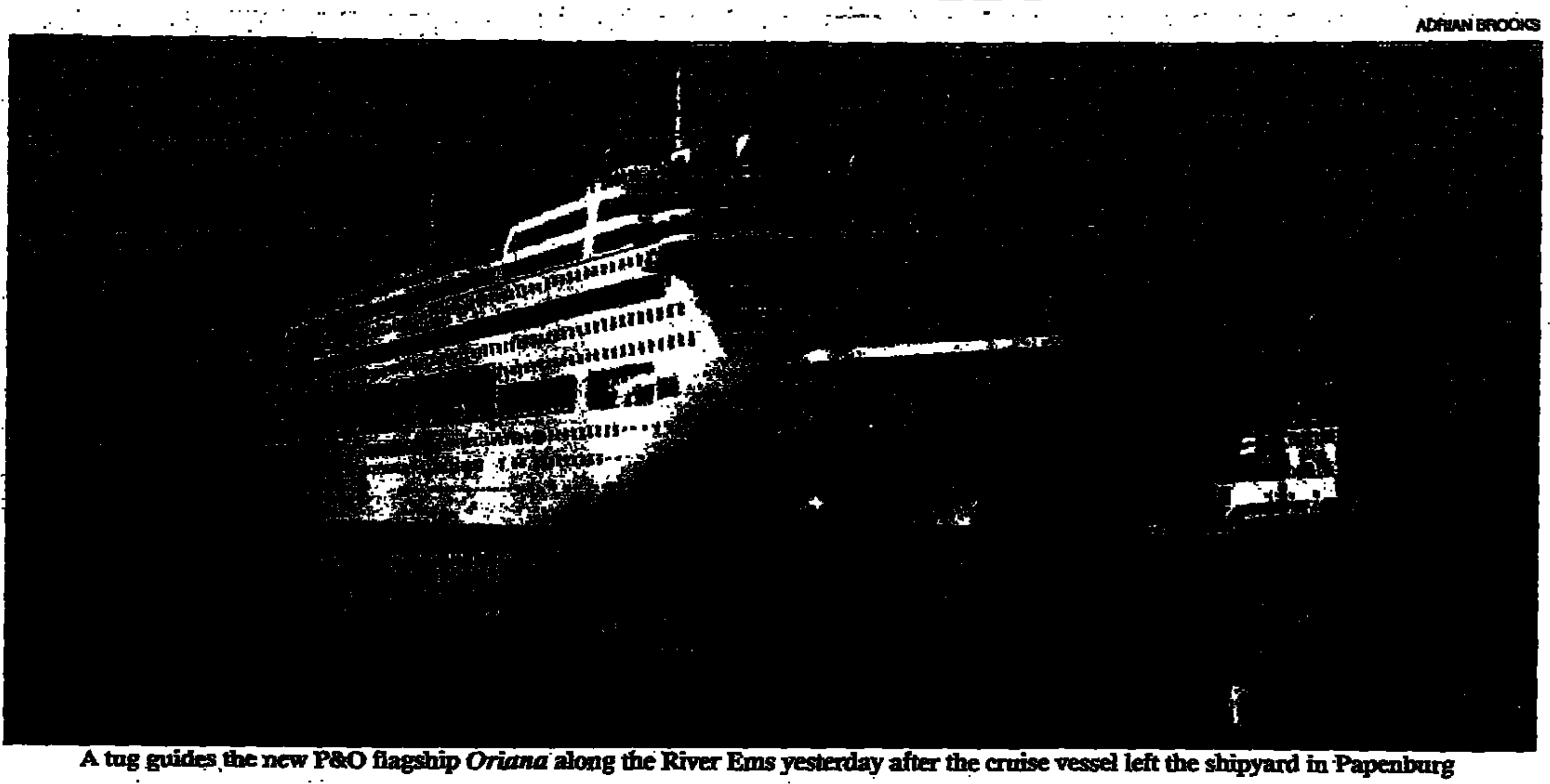
The report, published in October, challenged the policy of building more roads to meet the potential growth in traffic and put forward a range of proposals both for reducing air and noise pollution and preventing the further loss of countryside.

Ministers were shaken by the gloomy picture of pollution and environmental damage painted by the commission and immediately decided to test public reaction to the report and to take the views of peaceful enironmental groups much more seriously. Dr Mawhinney will outline his proposals in a speech to the pressure group Transport 2000 and announce them formally later in the day. Dr Mawhinney, a scientist with a specialist knowledge of radiology, is also a former health minister and has been making it clear in recent months that the transport industry must clean itself up voluntarily or face increasingly tough legislation.

Last week he warned more than 250 leaders of the aviation industry that they could no longer expect to ride roughshod over the environment. He surprised them with the strength of his determination not to give his automatic backing to airport developments and to give environmental considerations just as much, if not more, weight as economics. "I am not a wimp in this," he told them. "I am a realist. We are entering a changed world."

Within hours Sir Colin Marshall, chairman of British Airways, told the Chartered Institute of Transport that the aviation industry would not be able to get away with inconsiderate development.

ADRIAN BROOKS



A tug guides the new P&O flagship *Oriana* along the River Ems yesterday after the cruise vessel left the shipyard in Papenburg

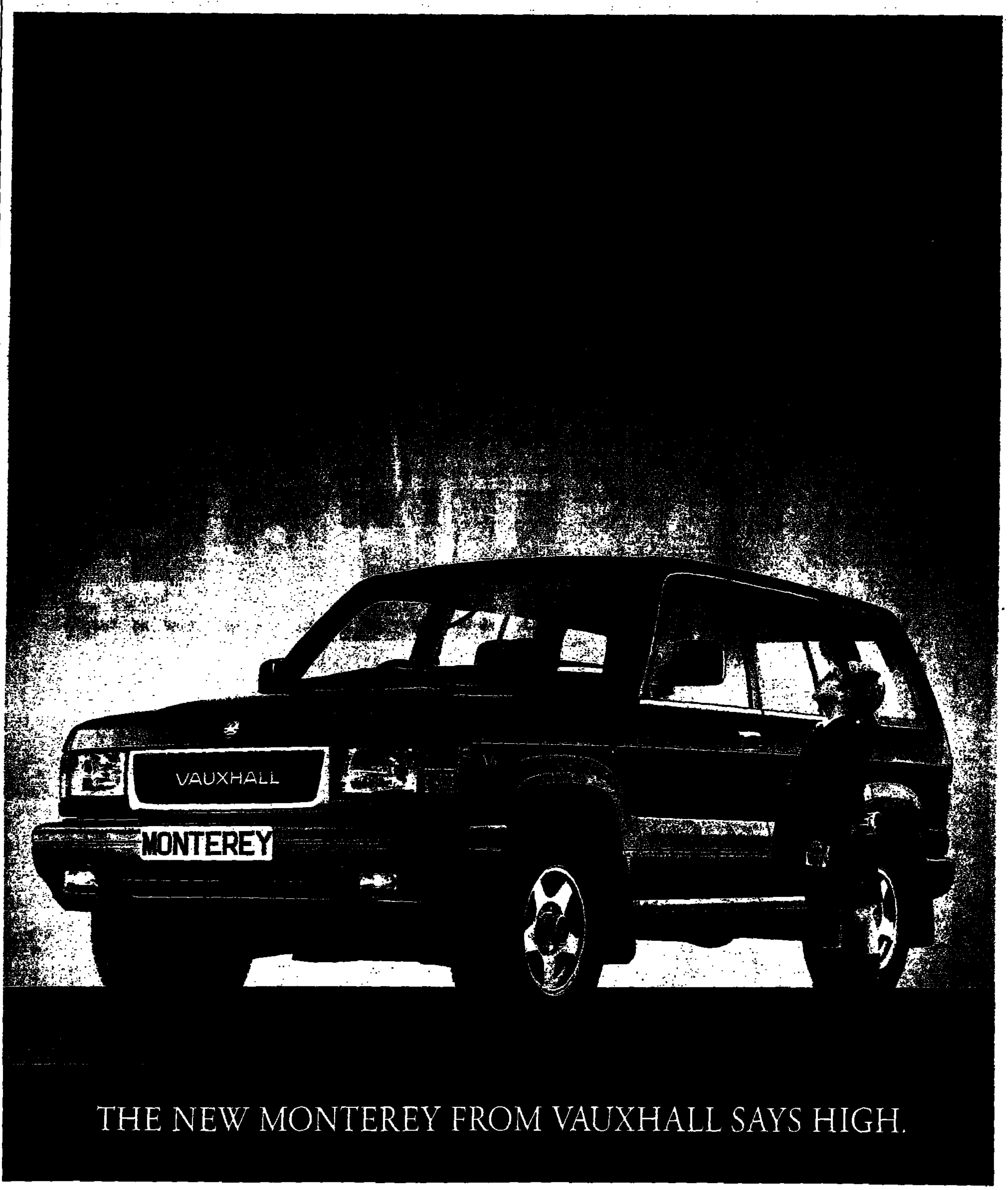
Oriana makes slow progress on maiden voyage

From Tim Jones
in Papenburg, Germany

BRITAIN'S newest supership, the 69,153 tonne, 850ft *Oriana*, yesterday began her first and most critical voyage. The fastest cruise ship built for more than a quarter of a century, with an operating speed of 24 knots, was reduced to a crawl as she edged down the River Ems through northern Germany to the open sea. Although the narrow river had been dredged to accommodate her, P&O's new flagship had to shed weight to reach the sea 30 miles away. Oil and water were pumped out and her 14 lifeboats taken off and followed like ducklings.

Even so, the £200 million liner had only inches to spare as tugs pulled her on a dawn high tide to Leer, 13 miles away. That short maiden voyage took more than three and a half hours as Friedhelm Husemeyer, the chief pilot, guided her through the narrow channel. At one point the keel scraped the bottom in spite of heavy rain having raised the level by three inches. Electricity supplies to a large part of Lower Saxony had to be rerouted to allow power cables crossing the river to be tied and bunched together, giving the ship's yellow funnel an extra nine inches of clearance. Later, she passed with only feet to spare between the arches of a railway bridge that had had to be dismantled. The departure of the ship was marked by a day of celebration. People travelled from hundreds of miles and as dawn broke more than 50,000 lined the river bank.

When she arrived at Leer, the *Oriana* had to tie up for eight hours to await the next tide before sailing to Emden and the open sea. From there, Ian Gibb, the ship's captain, will take her for sea trials before she is handed over to P&O on March 24 and named by the Queen at Southampton on April 6.



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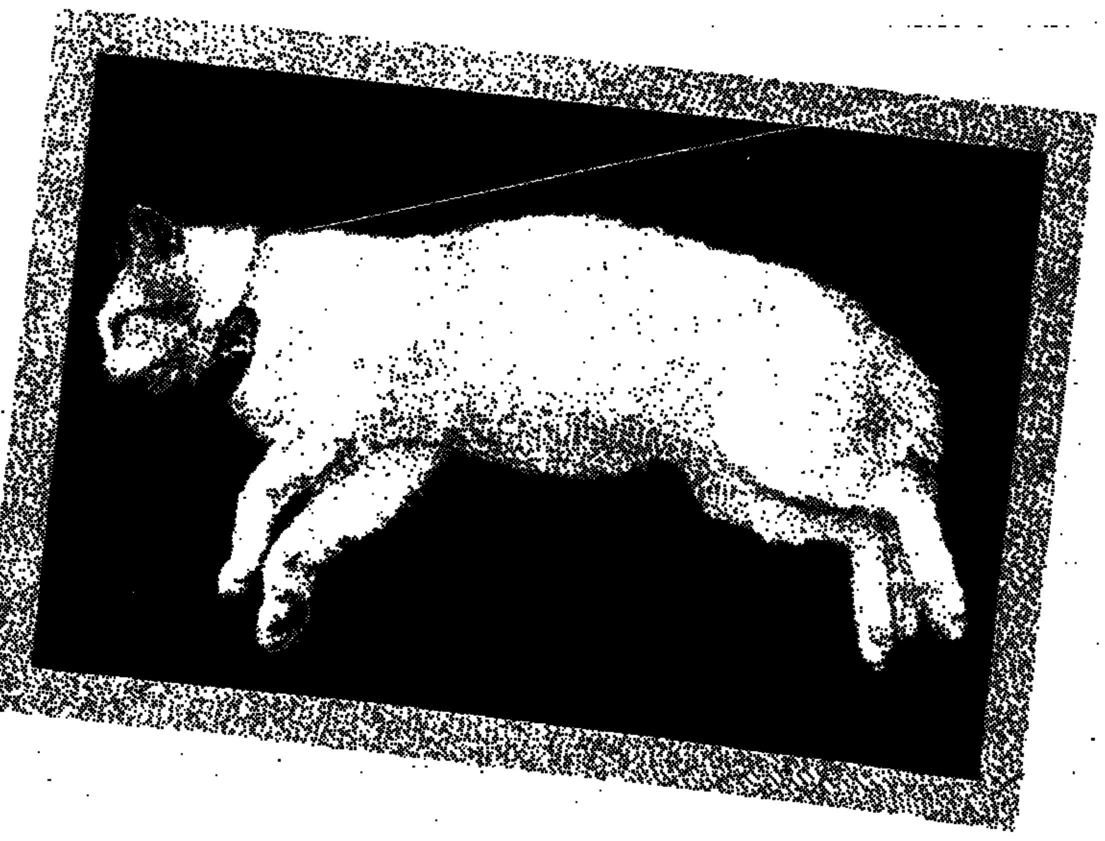

As well as being the most primitive form of hunting (Stone Age man used them) snares are the most inefficient. Set them to catch foxes and you're just as likely to find cats and dogs, deer and badgers or farm animals in them. Animals snared around the waist are slowly disembowelled, left alive with intestines hanging out for days. Caught by the leg they sometimes tear it off to crawl away and die later. Around the neck they are slowly strangled and almost decapitated. The Wild Mammals (Protection) Bill will prevent random snaring. Please write to your MP and urge them to vote in favour on March 3rd. Before your pet gets it in the neck...stomach or leg.

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Blair
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Touring leader confronts the doubters in effort to ditch commitment to privatisation

Blair relishes the fight for Labour hearts and minds

By Jill Sherman
Political Correspondent

TONY BLAIR'S attempt to ditch Clause Four, the cornerstone of the Labour Party's constitution, will be put to its first real test this week. The first stage of the consultation exercise ends on Friday when constituencies and trade unionists submit their views on what the rewritten clause should say.

After a hectic recent schedule in which the Labour leader has argued his case in Bournemouth, Cardiff and Bristol, Mr Blair has completed the first phase of his regional tour to convince members of the need to drop the nationalisation clause. Having addressed 30,000 members at 25 meetings in the past six weeks, he claims to have embarked on the biggest consultation exercise in the party's history.

His efforts suffered a setback yesterday when delegates at the party's London Regional Council backed a union move to block the reforms. About 300 delegates voted by 58.7 per cent to 41.3 per cent to support a motion proposed by the RMT rail union. Mr Blair may take some comfort from the voting of constituency parties, which opposed the motion by 59.3 per cent to 40.7 per cent.

Over the next two weeks Mr Blair and John Prescott, the deputy leader, will draft their version of Clause Four, to go to Labour's National Executive Committee on March 13. The critical vote, on which Mr Blair has effectively staked his leadership, will come at a conference on April 29.

He is expected to win the support of the trade unions but needs strong constituency backing to convince the electorate that Labour is ready to change, and to prevent the Conservatives from claiming that the party is still dependent on the unions. Judging by two hostile meetings in Cardiff and Bristol on Friday night, and a mixed reception in Bournemouth last Thursday, Mr Blair has his work cut out.

But he appears to thrive on it. The master of the delicate put-down, he can turn most gibes to his advantage. He uses first names (taking a note of name and question) and likes to be direct. When he is annoyed he prefaces the answer with "to be blunt" and accuses the questioner of talking nonsense or being ridiculous. After someone has spoken at length against his proposals, he smiles politely and says with heavy irony: "John, I gather you're not wholly in favour of change."

At the Aztec Hotel in Bristol on Friday night he was in his element. The 200 or so party members accused him of fudging rail privatisation policy, of refusing to listen, of making U-turns, of playing by his own rules, of destroying party unity, of discarding essential Labour principles and of "sacrificing Clause 4 on the altar of change".

Many were young, including students. Others were older, traditional hardliners. Several were angry that Mr Blair had chosen to hold the special conference on April 29, days before the local government elections, when party members should be busy campaigning. Some criticised his stand on grant-maintained schools, while others challenged him on Labour's policy on the water industry.

Adrian Becker, from Kingswood, asked why Mr Blair had changed his mind since saying during his leadership campaign that scrapping Clause Four was not a priority. Mr Blair, who only 50 minutes earlier had been fielding similar taunts in Cardiff, said that it had not been a priority at the time: "But I also said that it was a priority to be absolutely clear about what the Labour Party stands for. My view then came to be that it is through the constitution that clarity and identity can be honestly expressed. If is for you to decide if what is there now really expresses what you believe in. If it does, fine — but I bet you it doesn't."

Mr Blair has said that Clause Four, if taken literally, means that everything in the private sector should be nationalised, including small businesses. He pledges that the new clause would contain a commitment to public ownership, but that he also supports a thriving private sector. He says that Labour will not renationalise privatised utilities because it would be too expensive.

On rail he is less succinct. Phil Bialyk, of the RMT, accused him of fudging rail policy and challenged him to declare that Labour would return the railways to public control. Mr Blair seemed irritated. "Phil, I say this to you bluntly. It is not a question of fudging at all. It is a question of understanding that if you are going to be honest with people, our commitment to a publicly owned and publicly accountable railway will have to take account of what they [the Tories] manage to do over the next few years."

After the meeting, which earned a standing ovation from about a third of the members, the young enthused. "He was brilliant. He was so direct. He didn't dodge any questions. He explained everything really clearly," one Bristol University student said. Others had a different view. Adrian Becker said: "He didn't answer any questions. He told us nothing about policy ... He keeps talking about the need to build up trust with the electorate. Yet we do nothing but change."

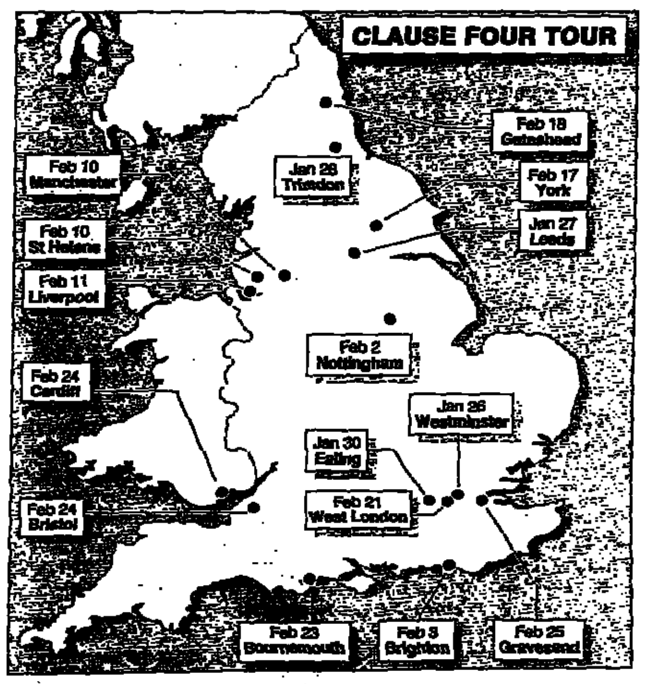
At the end of each session, Mr Blair manages to change the tempo with a visionary message in a final effort to woo his audience. In Cardiff he used his final words to give perhaps the most honest answer to what has driven him during his 25 meetings.

"Ever since I became leader of the Labour party I have been haunted by one simple thought: that I never ever want to wake up on the day after that election and think if I had only taken that decision it could have been different. I never want to wake up to another defeat and I never want to wake up to the fact that I know in my heart of hearts that I bottled out of something that could have made a significant difference."

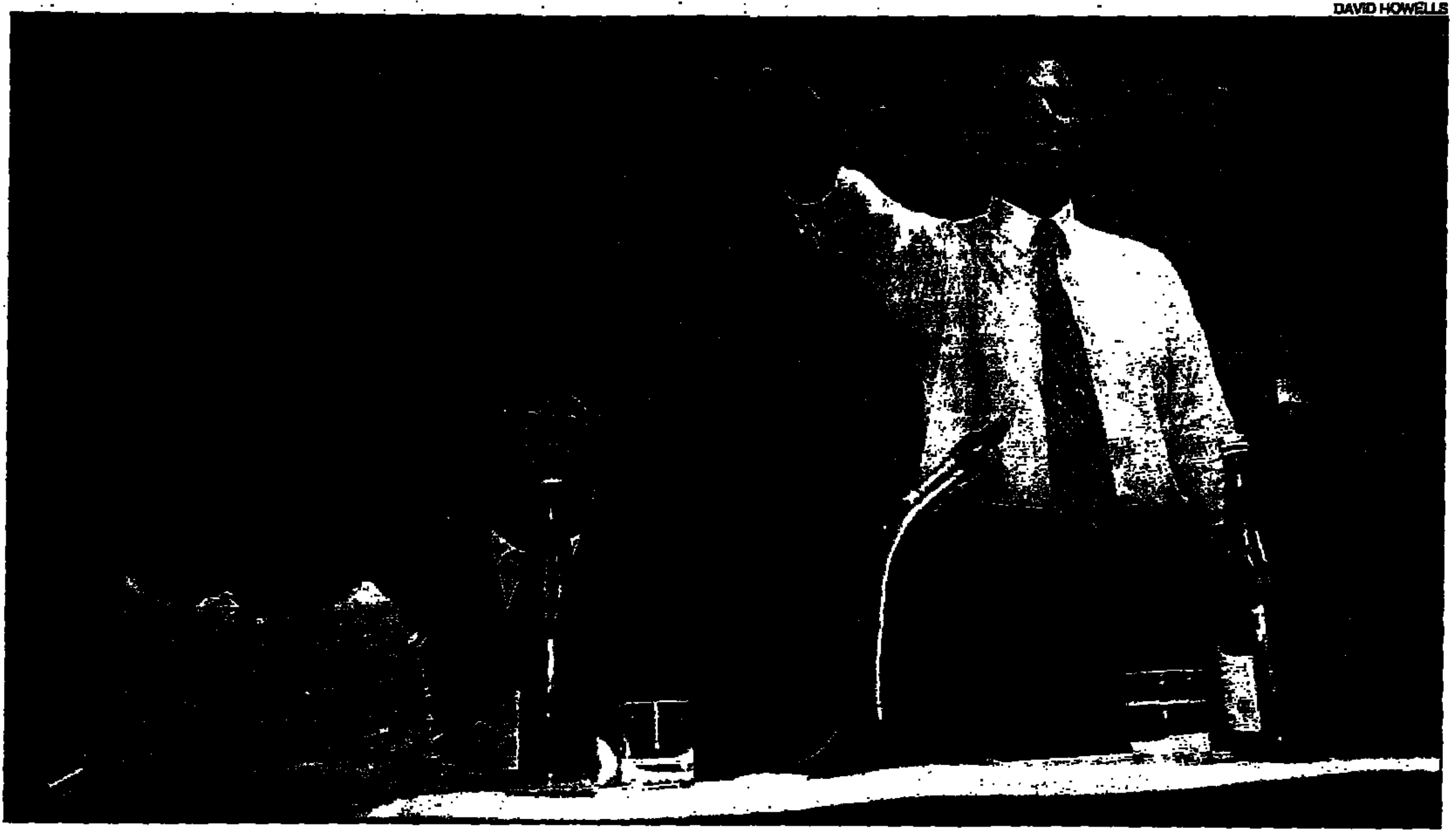
CLAUSE FOUR

Clause Four, devised by Sidney and Beatrice Webb, above, in 1918, makes state control of industry and commerce one of the main objects of the party. The key paragraph states:

"To secure for the workers by hand or brain the full fruits of their industry and the most equitable distribution thereof that may be possible on the basis of common ownership of the means of production and exchange, and the best obtainable system of popular administration and control of each industry or service."



DAVID HOWELLS



Tony Blair addressing Labour members in Bristol on Friday. Master of the delicate put-down, he can turn most gibes to his advantage

Constituency support is key to credibility

By Jill Sherman

THE Transport and General Workers Union, with about 14 per cent of the vote, is the only big union which might defy the Labour leader on April 29. The trade unions account for 70 per cent of the vote, with constituency parties holding 30 per cent.

While Mr Blair looks set to win on April 29, a good showing from the constituencies, which were responsible for the leadership's narrow defeat on Clause Four at last year's party conference, is also vital to convince the electorate that Mr Blair has the backing of his own members to modernise the party.

Mr Blair now hopes that if enough constituencies ballot their membership over the revised wording he will stop hardline party activists hijacking the constituency response. This week all unions will be assessing their own consultation exercises before drawing up their draft wording to submit to the NEC before March 3. Most of the largest unions have sent out the Labour Party's consultation document to their regions.

Unison, the public service union with 12 per cent of the vote, defied the leadership in the party conference vote on Clause Four, but both party and union sources expect it to change its mond on April 29. Tom Sawyer, Labour's new general secretary, was the former deputy leader at Unison and will undoubtedly put pressure on the union. If two of the three biggest unions back Mr Blair he should be home and dry. The GMB general union, with about 12 per cent of the vote, backed Mr Blair at conference.

Chefs prepare to repel Chinese truffle pirates

By Robin Young

BRITISH restaurateurs have been warned to be on their guard against Chinese piracy in the truffle trade.

An invasion of inferior Chinese truffles has excited a furore in France. Now there are fears that the cheats will turn their attention to the less-knowledgeable market in Britain, hoping for quick profits before their deception is detected here.

The basis of the fraud is the almost perfect similarity between the famous French black truffle, *tuber melanosporum*, as unearthed by foragers' trained pigs and dogs in the Dordogne and Provence, and its Chinese relative, *tuber himalayensis*.

In appearance they can only be accurately distinguished when the spores are examined under a microscope. But in taste and aroma the two are, the French insist, worlds apart. Unlike the strong, pervasive aroma and pungent savour of the French truffle, the Chinese substitute has little scent and virtually no taste. French experts complain that it even becomes unpleasant after a few days, and is therefore a danger to cuisine rather than an aid.

Unscrupulous dealers have been cheating by dousing the Chinese fungi in truffle-scented oil, or by packing them in containers with a top layer of the genuine French article. The potential for profit is considerable, because French truffles sell for £900 a kilogram (or more than £25 an ounce). Chinese truffles are available at little more than a sixth of that.

The French federation of truffle producers says that in the past two years several hundred tons of truffles have been flown in from the provinces of Shandong and Sichaun. This year, they claim, Chinese truffles have become a plague, and many are being re-exported to potentially lucrative markets such as Britain, which now has more Michelin three-star restaurants than any other country outside France. "Gastronomic pretensions in Britain make the country an ideal target for the fraudsters," a federation spokesman said yesterday. "The truth is that most British chefs shown a Chinese truffle and a French one would have no idea how to tell the difference."

Michel Rostang, a Paris chef, said: "The only way to know the difference is to have a trained palate and to taste and identify the product before buying. It is not a very practical way to enforce honesty in business, but it is becoming necessary."

Britain's own most well-known truffle hound, Antonio Carluccio of the Neal Street Restaurant and the television programme *A Passion for Mushrooms*, said: "The black truffle season is almost ending now, so if anybody comes selling anything at the back door this late in the year, maybe they will be Chinese truffles that they are offering. I would be interested to see one."

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TMS/PCC

Clinton to review policy of race and gender quotas

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

IN A new measure of the political upheaval rocking Washington, President Clinton has taken the risky step of ordering a review of government programmes that extend preferential treatment to minorities and women.

He has been forced to act by attacks on quotas by Republicans who were swept to victory in Congress last November on a tide of votes from angry white men. The President's move could presage a shift away from a basic tenet of Democratic policy for the past 30 years.

White male fury has been provoked by examples of government contracts going to firms managed by blacks and women to the exclusion of companies offering lower bids but run by white men. There are growing complaints of "reverse discrimination", a new bias in which whites are disregarded because they are not black, Hispanic or female.

The policy was enshrined by liberals in the aftermath of the 1964 Civil Rights Act and was intended to make up for years of discrimination against blacks, starting with slavery. Women were added later as the feminist revolution took hold. The programmes are not called what they are — quotas and preferences. Instead, they have the opaque name of "affirmative action", a term dating from the Kennedy era.

Since then, quotas boosting affirmative action have been written into hundreds of federal laws. The Pentagon sets aside 5 per cent of its contracts for supplies, research, construction and maintenance to "socially and economically disadvantaged individuals". Federal agencies are encouraged to deposit funds in banks owned by women and minorities. A portion of all government research grants goes to black universities. Preferences extend to housing and tax breaks. Whites are beginning to ask: where will it end?

Mr Clinton denies that he is backing away from equal opportunities for all Americans. He simply thinks that after three decades the programmes should be re-examined. "It's time to ask: do they work, are they fair, do they achieve the desired objectives?" he said.

Black leaders are on alert. Kweisi Mfume, a Democratic member of Congress, said he would organise a national campaign to protect affirmative action. Conservatives, by contrast, say Mr Clinton is desperately trying to buy time to stem further white flight from the Democrats.

In California, Governor Pete Wilson formally endorsed a proposed ballot initiative at the weekend that would repeal the state's own affirmative action laws by banning racial and gender preferences in hiring, contracting and college admissions.

His support, welcomed by conservative Republicans, was also a signal that he could be laying out his stance for a national agenda should he decide to seek the party's presidential nomination.

George Burns shown on a giant television monitor receiving a standing ovation as he accepts a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Screen Actors' Guild in Los Angeles. The veteran actor and comedian, 99, was too frail to leave

Actors honour comic Burns

his seat at the Saturday night ceremony, the first of what is to be an annual event. Tom Hanks was named outstanding actor in a leading role for *Forrest Gump*. Jodie Foster received the best actress award for *Nell*, a story of a woman learning to live in civilised society after growing up in the wild. *(Reuter)*

Arrests point to conspiracy in Mexico killing

BY DAVID ADAMS

ALMOST a year after the assassination of Mexico's leading presidential candidate, government investigators have revived the theory that his death was the result of a political conspiracy, possibly hatched within his own ruling party.

New arrests at the weekend have undermined the contention that Luis Donaldo Colosio was killed by a lone assassin. Mario Aburto, who fired at Colosio during an election rally in the northern city of Tijuana on March 23, was arrested at the scene and sentenced to 45 years in jail last December.

At the weekend, government agents arrested Othón Cortes Vásquez, a former employee of the ruling Institutional Revolutionary Party (PRI), who is accused of being a second gunman in the shooting. Also under arrest is Fernando de la Sota, who is suspected of tampering with evidence.

Both were arrested on the testimony of three witnesses, a video of the rally, and new evidence collected by the third special prosecutor assigned to the case.

The evidence suggests that the two bullets could not have been fired by the same man, since they hit opposite sides of Colosio's body. Investigators had earlier provided the unlikely explanation that the assassinated candidate had turned in the split second between the two shots.

"The hypothesis is unsustainable that there was a lone killer, and there is no doubt that the scene of the crime was manipulated," said Antonio Lozano, the Attorney-General. "The murder ... was the result of action by various individuals," he said, adding that the video evidence "clearly shows collusion between several people".

President Zedillo, who was the campaign manager for Colosio, has pledged to clean up the PRI and bring greater democracy to Mexico. He wants a full investigation into the killing, only one of the darker episodes of 1994. The year also brought a prolonged peasant insurrection in the southern state of Chiapas and the unravelling of the country's economic boom.

With Mexico's financial markets in turmoil and the Government apparently preparing to launch a series of economic austerity measures, including tough budget cuts and tax increases, the news of a possible plot within the PRI to kill Colosio, and a subsequent cover-up, is likely to add to a rising mood of anger and instability.

Satellite fallout endangers spacecraft

FROM JAMES BONE
IN NEW YORK

RADIOACTIVE leaks from discarded Soviet spy satellites are threatening other spacecraft orbiting the Earth.

The *New York Times* reported yesterday that Nasa scientists had identified nuclear reactors aboard defunct Soviet spy satellites as the source of tens of thousands of tiny droplets flying through space at enormous speeds.

Although liquid and only about the size of a coin, the droplets threaten to damage navigation, surveillance and weather satellites in the crowded 600-mile-high orbit. That could create more debris which could, in turn, crash into more spacecraft.

Using a 100ft dish radar in Massachusetts, Nasa has detected 70,000 particles, and believes there may be millions more.

The droplets are consist of a radioactive and corrosive coolant — a mixture of sodium and potassium in liquid metal form — used in nuclear reactors. But the danger comes from their speed.

The Soviet Union launched 33 nuclear-powered spy satellites. Nasa scientists believe 66lbs of reactor coolant has already leaked from them and that much more could escape.

Experts say the droplets are not large enough to shatter a satellite completely, but could damage fragile parts like sensors and solar energy panels. The result is that designers will now have to add new shields to protect satellites. Nasa's planned space station will be safe, because it will orbit at a lower altitude.

Nato chief sees army threat in Russia

BY MICHAEL EVANS
DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

POLITICAL instability in Russia poses the greatest threat for Nato in northwest Europe, a senior RAF commander said yesterday on the eve of a huge alliance military exercise. Exercise Strong Resolve 95, involving 22,000 Nato soldiers, will begin on Thursday in central Norway.

Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Johns, Commander-in-Chief of RAF Strike Command at High Wycombe in Buckinghamshire and also Commander-in-Chief Allied Forces Northwest Europe, said the worst scenario could involve the Russian military, in the event of a political collapse.

Sir Richard said: "They [the Russians] still retain the largest army within Europe. It is a very large and powerful force." Their rapid mobilisation in Chechenia to take on the rebels was impressive.

Although he said there was no threat to Nato at present, Sir Richard emphasised the importance of maintaining a strong alliance. Nato's mission had changed "dramatically". He said: "We can't let it become a paper tiger."

Making a rare statement on the threats facing his area of Nato command, Sir Richard also issued a warning of the environmental risk posed by atomic and chemical waste in Russia's Arctic regions. Norway is the only Nato nation bordering Russia whose Arctic Kola Peninsula has the biggest concentration of atomic warheads in the world and ageing nuclear power plants. Sir Richard said: "It is a real problem and potentially a very serious one."

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China will purge pirates after deal to halt trade war

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PEKING

CHINA will create task forces to combat intellectual property pirates and launch raids to destroy fake goods from March 1 under a pact with the United States to avert a trade war, American officials said yesterday.

Peking and Washington averted a bruising commercial confrontation by signing an agreement to strengthen safeguards against intellectual property piracy in China and widen market access for American companies just hours after a deadline for the imposition of sanctions.

The cliffhanger accord creates task forces throughout China with authority to search premises and destroy manufacturing equipment, the officials said.

Charlene Barshefsky, the Deputy American Trade Representative, said that China had agreed to abolish import quotas and many other import barriers for American intellectual property, particularly recorded music and film, with immediate effect.

"It [the accord] creates a system of task forces throughout the country which has brought authority to search premises, review business records, preserve evidence, destroy goods, destroy equipment used in the manufacture of infringing goods, to order infringement to stop, and to refer cases for criminal prosecution," she said. An intensive six-month period of raids would begin next month against all suspected infringers, including compact disc, laser disc and CD-Rom factories. Those still in operation would be punished through seizure and forfeiture of products.

Ms Barshefsky hailed the deal as historic. Wu Yi, the Chinese Minister for Foreign Trade and Economic Co-operation, said that it marked a turning point in often turbulent Sino-American ties.

The signing of the agreement, a full ten hours after expiry of the deadline, meant that the two countries had drawn back from a further serious downturn in relations that are troubled over human rights, arms control and the possible appointment of a new US Ambassador who takes a hard line on Peking at a time of internal uncertainty in both China and America.

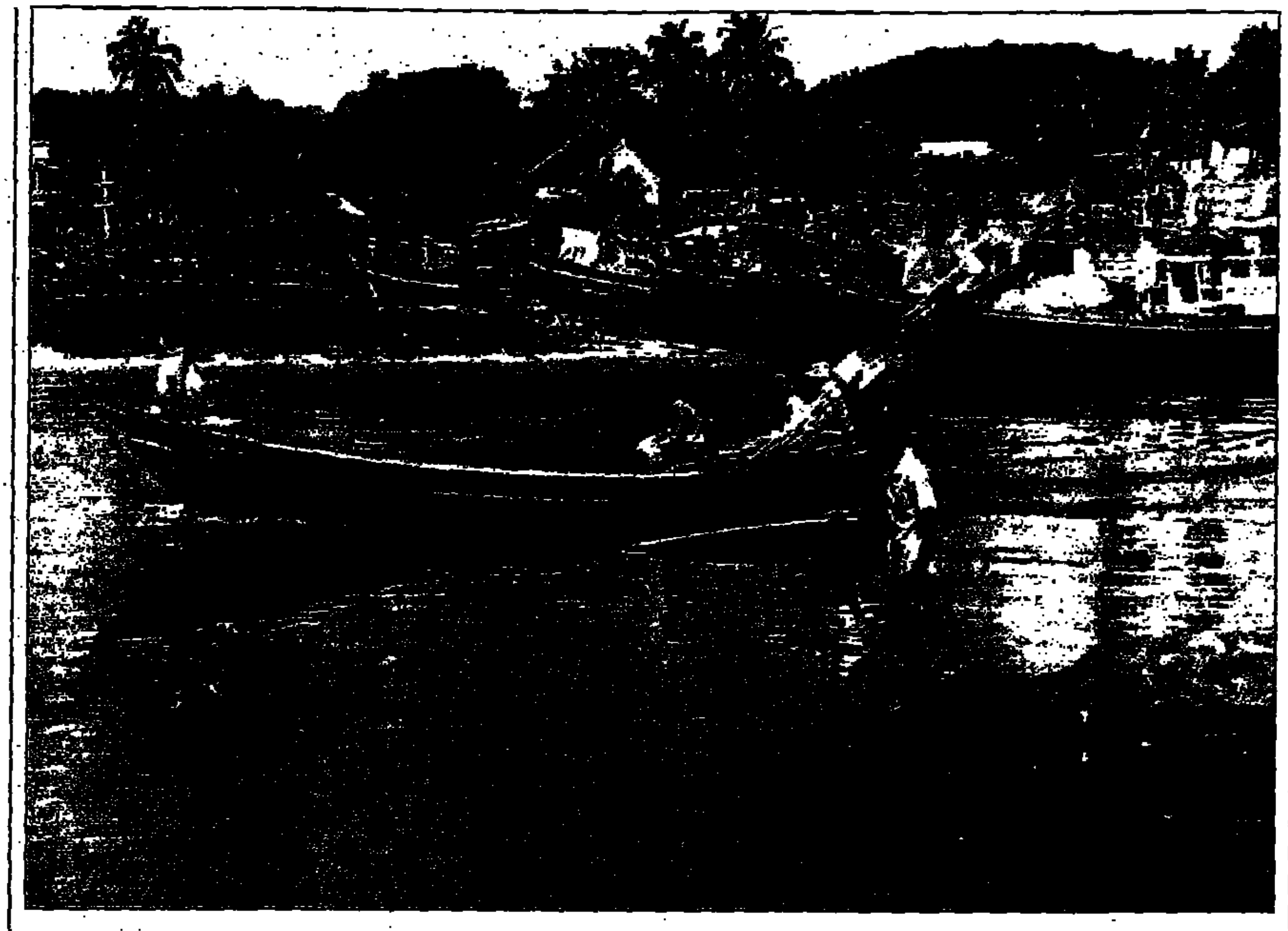
The breakthrough in the latest round of negotiations, which began on February 14, may have come just hours short of yesterday's final session over China's counterfeiting of American copyrights, trade marks and patents before mutual trade sanctions would have come into effect. China announced that it was closing two factories which have been flooding Asian markets with pirated videos and music.

One of the factories, Shenfei, which American officials say is the most flagrant violator of China's anti-piracy laws, is based in the booming city of Shenzhen, adjoining Hong Kong, and has produced counterfeit laser discs of Steven Spielberg's hit film, *Jurassic Park*, among many others.

In Peking, there is a virtual paralysis of government as the life of Deng Xiaoping, 90, the paramount leader, apparently nears its end.

In Washington, President Clinton faces a Republican-dominated Congress reluctant to make concessions to the Communist rulers in Peking. "The Chinese only gave ground as they came down to the line," one foreign commercial attaché in Peking said. "At the last moment, they saw the Americans were determined to go the whole way and gave them a facesaver to call off a trade war."

More than $2 billion (£1.28 billion) in tit-for-tat trade sanctions would have taken effect last night if the two sides had failed to reach agreement.



Sleepy island means business

A fishing boat puts to sea from Phu Quoc, a sleepy island off the southwestern coast of Vietnam with just six cars, unpaved roads and four hours of electricity on a good day. The island is to be transformed into an international financial centre at a cost of £630 million. Mekong Holdings, a Vancouver-based investment firm, is expecting the go-ahead soon from Hanoi for its subsidiary, Phu Quoc Island Development, to draw up a master plan that will include a port, airport and export-processing zone. But the idea of an offshore tax haven has encountered some scepticism. "Vietnam is still coming to grips with the idea of onshore banking, let alone anything else," one Western banker said. *(AFP)*

Russian extremist arrives in Baghdad

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER
MIDDLE EAST CORRESPONDENT

THE Russian ultra-nationalist leader, Vladimir Zhirinovsky, arrived in Baghdad yesterday with a 50-strong delegation, including 20 members of parliament. He announced that he wanted President Saddam Hussein to join a new coalition against the West.

The leader of the extreme Liberal Democratic Party said he would work for the lifting of United Nations sanctions imposed on Iraq in 1990, and spoke of the high esteem in which he held the Iraqi leader.

Mr Zhirinovsky, whose party took a quarter of the votes in the last parliamentary election, said the delegation would hold talks with the ministries of oil, agriculture, trade, finance, defence and education.

☐ **Moscow:** Russia reassured Iran yesterday that it would go ahead with a £500 million agreement to build nuclear reactors for Teheran, despite fierce American opposition.

Spy row blamed on unsporting French

FROM IAN BRODIE IN WASHINGTON

THE French were portrayed as bad losers yesterday in the latest twist to the commercial spying row involving five CIA agents in Paris.

It was suggested that last week's extraordinary public clash between the old allies may have been provoked by two recent American coups in the world of industrial espionage, both serious setbacks for the French.

One was America's success in persuading Saudi Arabia to buy 50 airliners from Boeing and McDonnell Douglas instead of from the Airbus consortium. *The Washington Post*, reporting from Paris, said the Americans employed a large string of CIA agents, and the eavesdropping network of the National Security Agency, to sniff out French bribes and generous financing terms. In clinching the deal, worth $6 billion (£3.87 billion), President Clinton offered substantial loan guarantees to the Saudis through the US Government's Export-Import Bank.

Another blow to the French was the loss of a project worth $1.4 billion to build a high-tech radar system in the Amazon basin. CIA reports of French bribes to Brazilian officials were revealed to the Brazilian Government and the deal switched from the French electronics Thomson CSF to its American rival, Raytheon Corp.

☐ **Taipei:** A $1.9 billion missile deal between Taiwan and France will go ahead despite the expulsion of the Americans by France for economic espionage, including trying to block the deal, the Taiwan Air Force Commander-in-Chief, Tang Fei, said here. *(AFP)*

THE TIMES
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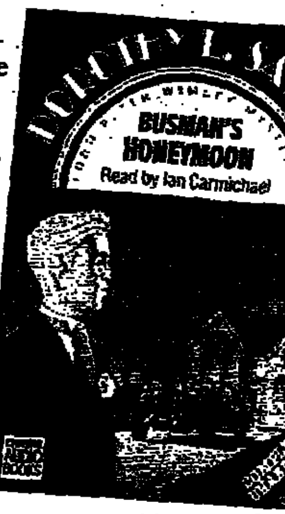

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Somali clans fight to control airport as UN pulls out

FROM SAM KILEY IN MOGADISHU AND MICHAEL EVANS

THE alliance behind General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Somali warlord whose militiamen forced a humiliating reversal of American foreign policy in 1993, looked set to crumble yesterday after a gun battle between his supporters for control of the capital's airport.

At least three men were killed and five wounded when rival clans within the general's Somali National Alliance clashed a few yards from United Nations peacekeepers, who are preparing to end their mission to the East African country this week.

Fire from anti-aircraft cannon and heavy machineguns raked across the airport, hitting a jet chartered to take Pakistani troops out of Mogadishu and cabins occupied by the rump UN staff of 50 civilians. The UN force had been preparing for a meeting with clan elders who had drawn up proposals for joint management of the airport and the port by the warring clans who have divided the city for the past five years.

Last night a Royal Navy warship was standing by in the multinational operation to evacuate the last 2,500 UN soldiers from Somalia. American and Italian marines will land to protect the withdrawal. The 20 patrolling warships, including the destroyer *HMS Exeter*, will provide cover for the two-day withdrawal. Operation United Shield will involve 2,000 men in landing craft, helicopters and hovercraft. Another 8,000 are on alert.

The American amphibious assault ships *USS Belleau Wood* and *USS Essex* could launch helicopter and hovercraft assaults if the UN withdrawal is threatened.

When the UN mission pulls out — all foreign missions to Somalia have already closed down — Somalia's only diplomatic contact with the outside world will be through the UN offices in neighbouring Kenya. The prospect of a vicious fight between militiamen for control of the port and airport has forced many businessmen and political leaders into a desperate attempt to draw up a joint management deal before both installations are wrecked by looters and overrun by General Aidid's men.

The alliance forced President Clinton to abandon a hunt for General Aidid, who is blamed for numerous attacks on UN soldiers, in October 1993 after a battle in which 18 American soldiers and about 350 Somalis were killed. The warlord's insistence on maintaining his anti-American position and his refusal to compromise over his demands to be President of Somalia recently drove a wedge between him and Ali Hassan Osman, his main financial backer.

Yesterday political difference between the two broke into open warfare as Mr Osman sent his own battle wagons to drive General Aidid's militia away from the entrance to the airport. As a backer of the joint management idea for the airport, Mr Osman clearly feared that the general, who has signed an agreement, would renege and try to seize it for himself. Fighting spread into the town along the access road to the airport in the late afternoon, trapping the dozen journalists on the floor of the Sahafi hotel for two hours while the rival clans attacked one another with heavy weapons, shattering many of the building's windows. A prominent Somali journalist said the alliance was finished. "It is just a joke now. And with the departure of the UN they will really feel the pinch. Because it was from the UN that the SNA (through transport and building contracts) made most of its money. General Aidid and his people are trying to use their old bandit tricks, but even his own former supporters are fed up with this nonsense."

In the past two weeks the UN has handed out almost $5 million (£3.20 million) in severance pay to its Somali employees and contractors. Since 1992, the UN's operation in Somalia has cost more than $2 billion. Much of it has found its way into the coffers of the alliance.

American commanders reconnoitre the Somali coast at the weekend as the US-led United Nations forces prepare to leave Mogadishu

Pre-poll pact backs Buthelezi mediation call

Buthelezi: agreement signed last year

FROM MICHAEL HAMLYN IN CAPE TOWN

MEMBERS of the African National Congress national executive, which has large numbers of left-wingers, Communists and Africanist militants, argued at the weekend that the demand for international mediation by Chief Mangosuthu Buthelezi, the conservative leader of the Inkatha Freedom Party, should be rejected out of hand. But Chief Buthelezi does have a case.

The ANC argues that time and changed circumstances have removed the need for mediation. But the ANC and the former ruling National Party did sign a pre-election agreement with Chief Buthelezi which provided for such mediation. It was that deal, *An Agreement for Peace and Reconciliation*, signed on April 19 last year, that took Chief Buthelezi and his party into the April 27 elections.

If he is to be cheated of the deal his persistence and tenacity won him then, he must be considered correct in saying that he should no longer stay in parliament, but consider extra-parliamentary methods of accomplishing his aims.

The Chief is an uncommonly prickly character, given to public outbursts of temper. On Friday he castigated a radio reporter for asking whether he intended to continue his parliamentary boycott. "I am disgusted that you should use the word boycott," he spluttered, and declined to give any further answer.

Earlier, he had responded to a question from a British reporter by fulminating that the "Caucasian mind" obviously had no understanding of what black people needed. But his tetchiness does not mean he is necessarily wrong.

Chief Buthelezi has been convinced for years that the best future for South Africa lies in a federal state, with extensive autonomy for individual provinces. The ANC has long believed that the future of South Africa should lie in a unitary state, with a strong central government.

Since the ANC has the votes to force through its wishes in a confrontation with Inkatha, Chief Buthelezi and his advisers have, since constitutional negotiations began, opposed the idea that the form of the state should be settled by an elected constitutional assembly. Accordingly, when it seemed that he could not get his way in the multiparty negotiations, he boycotted them.

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Mandela 'to dismiss his wife as minister'

Johannesburg: Winnie Mandela is to be dismissed from the South African Government by her estranged husband when she returns from a trip to West Africa, reports quoting official sources said.

The Johannesburg *Sunday Times* said President Mandela had already taken the decision but had made no announcement because he wished to tell her personally when she returns home.

Last Thursday, she defied his order to cancel a visit to Ghana, Burkina Faso and Ivory Coast, saying through her secretary that the instruction came after her plane had taken off. A senior government source said the President was "hopping mad" about the incident.

Mrs Mandela, Deputy Minister of Arts, Culture, Science and Technology, also said that her official visit, mainly to attend the Pan-African Film and Television Festival in Ouagadougou, the capital of Burkina Faso, could not be cancelled at the last minute as it would damage South Africa's standing in West Africa. *(AFP)*

Activists arrested after Pakistan mosque massacres

FROM REUTER IN KARACHI

PAKISTANI police arrested 36 Islamic activists yesterday as Karachi, Pakistan's largest city, mourned the death of 20 worshippers in attacks on mosques on Saturday.

The capital of the southern province of Sindh were deserted. Shops closed as a mark of respect after masked gunmen attacked two mosques of the minority Shia Muslim sect. There was also a partial protest strike in the central Sindh town of Hyderabad. Gunfire kept tension high in Karachi last night and hundreds of armed police guarded mosques.

Police said 30 of the arrested activists belonged to three groups of the majority Sunni sect and six to some Shia groups. After the mosque attacks young Shia Muslims, their faces covered in black cloth, staged protests around Karachi, firing rifles into the air and shouting for revenge. Morning traffic was thin in Karachi's normally busy streets, with many people apparently staying home fearing further violence.

Police said four people were killed yesterday in different localities, but there was no information of any link to Saturday's violence. Two of them were shot, one was strangled and the fourth beaten to death.

The paramilitary Rangers force said it had recovered drugs and illegal arms of Afghan origin, including assault rifles and grenades, from a gang near the port area. Benazir Bhutto, the Prime Minister, sent a message of condolence to the families of those killed in Saturday's mosque attacks and urged the provincial government to find and punish the culprits. "Islam teaches affection, tolerance and brotherhood," she said. "There is no place for terrorism and sectarianism in Islam."

Hundreds of Shia mourners visited the Mehfil-i-Murtaza *imambargah*, or Shia prayer hall, where masked gunmen massacred 14 worshippers at dawn on Saturday. Gunmen killed six Shias in an attack on another *imambargah* about 20 minutes before the Mehfil-i-Murtaza raid.

The mosque attacks were the latest in a series of revenge killings involving Sunni and Shia factions in Karachi, where ethnic and sectarian unrest has cost 161 lives this month and 800 last year.

Police said that masked gunmen raided the English-language *Nation* and Urdu-language *Nawa-e-Waqt* newspaper premises on Saturday night and set them on fire, destroying ground-floor offices.

☐ **Islamabad:** Salamat Masih, 14, and his uncle Rehmat Masih, the Pakistani Christians whose blasphemy convictions were overturned last week in a case that inflamed Muslim extremists, were free and at an undisclosed location yesterday. *(AP)*

'Too white' Stones rock on

Jagger performing in Johannesburg

FROM REUTER IN JOHANNESBURG

THE Rolling Stones played their first concerts in Africa at the weekend, singing to virtually all-white audiences about love and revolution.

A total of about 100,000 people attended the two concerts in Johannesburg at Ellis Park stadium, part of the British group's Voodoo Lounge world tour that continues in Tokyo. Very few of South Africa's majority black population came to watch the band. "They're too white," said one black journalist who turned down a free ticket.

Mick Jagger thanked the crowd in Zulu for their rousing response to songs such as *Streetfighting Man*, in which he declares "the time is ripe for violence, revolution". Jagger steered clear of controversy during a week-long visit, although a group called Young South Africans for a Christian Civilisation accused the Rolling Stones of promoting communism and immorality. "Many of their songs clearly glorify amorality, violence and lewdness."

Earlier this month Winnie Mandela, the Deputy Minister of Arts and Culture, called the Rolling Stones racists for using a white promoter for the South African leg of their show. Asked at a press conference if he considered himself a racist and if he had tried the local marijuana, Jagger replied: "No to both questions."

[redacted]

Right fails to bar new spymaster

Jerusalem: Extreme right-wing Jews have failed in a legal attempt to prevent the appointment of a new Israeli spymaster, regarded as the country's leading expert on Jewish terrorism (Christopher Walker writes).

Identifiable only as "K", the new head is to take control of Shin Bet, the main internal security service, on Wednesday, and is expected to switch the organisation's emphasis. In the past he has commanded operations against right-wing Jews and Jewish settlers accused of attacking Arabs.

Vigilantes join Algeria manhunt

Tunis: Armed vigilantes joined Algeria's security forces in a manhunt for Islamic militant fighters in the Kabylie region, an Algerian newspaper reported. The account of the first operation in which vigilantes were openly associated with security forces came as the death toll in Algeria's three years of civil strife continued to rise. The official APS news agency said 14 "criminals" were killed on Saturday, and 19 others died during the week. *(Reuter)*

Border talks make progress

Mecca: Saudi Arabia and Yemen signed a declaration of principles yesterday, mapping out steps to settle a 60-year-old border dispute that has erupted into armed conflict in the past. The two countries, after more than a month of difficult talks in Saudi Arabia, agreed an 11-point declaration, setting up negotiating teams to demarcate land and sea boundaries and help to normalise ties. *(AFP)*

Sands of time

Cairo: Egyptian soldiers have found an abandoned British Second World War lorry in perfect working order in the desert 1,200 miles south of the battlefields of El-Alamein, the *Al-Nasr* newspaper said. The lorry, used for decades by snakes as a refuge, will go to a war museum. *(AFP)*

هكذا من [illegible]

Scandal-hit González fights for his moment in the European spotlight

González: faded image of modernising leader

■ Spain's Prime Minister, in a Nixon-like display, is doggedly defying judges and media, Charles Bremner in Madrid writes

A GAGGLE of camera crews keeps a permanent vigil these days just off a pretty square in central Madrid. Much of the day they bask in the strong winter sunshine but they snap to attention when a car pulls up outside the Audiencia Nacional, the high court.

In a well-worn ritual, out jump lawyers and then the latest high official to be grilled by Baltasar Garzón, the glossy young "super-judge" who, along with fellow investigators, is busy demolishing the authority of the Government of Felipe González, the Spanish Prime Minister for the past 12 years. Sometimes the VIP leaves not by the front door, but from the back inside a white police van that takes him to "preventive detention".

Such was the case last week when Rafael Vera, the minister who ran Spain's anti-terrorist drive for the past decade, and a high Socialist politician were locked up on charges of organising the death squads that killed 27 people in an underground war with Basque terrorists in the 1980s. The pair were the latest distinguished jail birds in a series of scandals that seems to be bringing the González era to a slow and painful close.

The operative word is slow, because Señor González, 52, is determined to weather the storm which, 20 months after squeaking to his fourth consecutive election victory, has robbed him of the respect and affection that he enjoyed as the modernising leader of the 1980s. As followers desert him, Señor González is another Richard Nixon in his final days as he blithely ignores the onslaught of judges and media, bent on fulfilling his "great vision". This, at the moment, boils down to a single obsession, Spain's turn to hold the European presidency, which starts in July. For Señor González, it will be an occasion for Iberian grandeur in which Spain, now recovering from recession, can turn the European Union spotlight south to the Mediterranean nations.

Officials preparing for the presidency say they could do without the turmoil which has, among other things, hammered the peseta and the stock market, but they urge perspective. Manuel Conthe, the director of the Treasury, said the death squad affair is being overplayed. "We invented the Inquisition so maybe we have a tendency to shoot ourselves in the foot," he says.

As long as Jordi Pujol, the wily Catalan leader, refrains from pulling the rug from under the Socialists, Señor González can count on ignoring the demands for elections from José María Aznar, 40, the leader of the conservative opposition Popular Party (PP). Reaching for the all-important argument about Spain's image in foreign eyes, the PP says the country cannot afford upheavals during its presidency stint. "Spain is paying a high cost for keeping González in power," said Rafael Arias Salgado, policy adviser to Señor Aznar. "There are three criminal cases going on which affect the Government and the Prime Minister directly."

Memories of the last spasm of *franquismo* were revived yesterday as Spain noted the 24th anniversary of the attempted takeover of the Cortes by Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero of the Civil Guard.

The pro-opposition media seized the moment for comparisons with the present storm. In polemical mode, *ABC*, the conservative daily, said: "The sad events we are living through are worse and more damaging for democracy than February 23, 1981."

Fears of economic rifts temper the rush to cyberspace

From Wolfgang Münchau in Brussels

THE Group of Seven yesterday ended its first conference on the information society amid heightened concern that the cyberspace age will widen the chasm between rich and poor, and between leading industrialised nations and the developing world.

The conference was the first major platform at which various blueprints of the information society were subjected to political debate. The heads of the world's leading technology companies, who exhibited their latest virtual reality cybertoys at the conference, urged further deregulation in telecommunications markets, emphasising the need for a free-market approach in the development of an information society. They received strong support from G7 ministers.

Enthusiasm for the new world was tempered by a series of sceptical voices, notably from Thabo Mbeki, First Deputy President of South Africa, one of the few representatives from outside the G7, who was a guest of honour. Mr Mbeki said that in South Africa, only 2 per cent of blacks had telephones, compared to three-quarters of the white population. "The reality is that there are more telephone lines on Manhattan Island than in sub-Saharan Africa," he said. Mr Mbeki also reiterated widespread concerns about American cultural domination — a fear shared by France — when he said: "We don't just want to be watching MTV videos."

The need for a dialogue with the rest of the world was underlined in principle by the European Commission and the majority of G7 ministers, but the emphasis was on market deregulation and technological development. Martin Bangemann, the European Commissioner in charge of information technology, said: "We will not achieve the information society unless we give the free market a free rein. I am not convinced that division of the world into 'haves' and 'have-nots' will be the inevitable consequence of the information society."

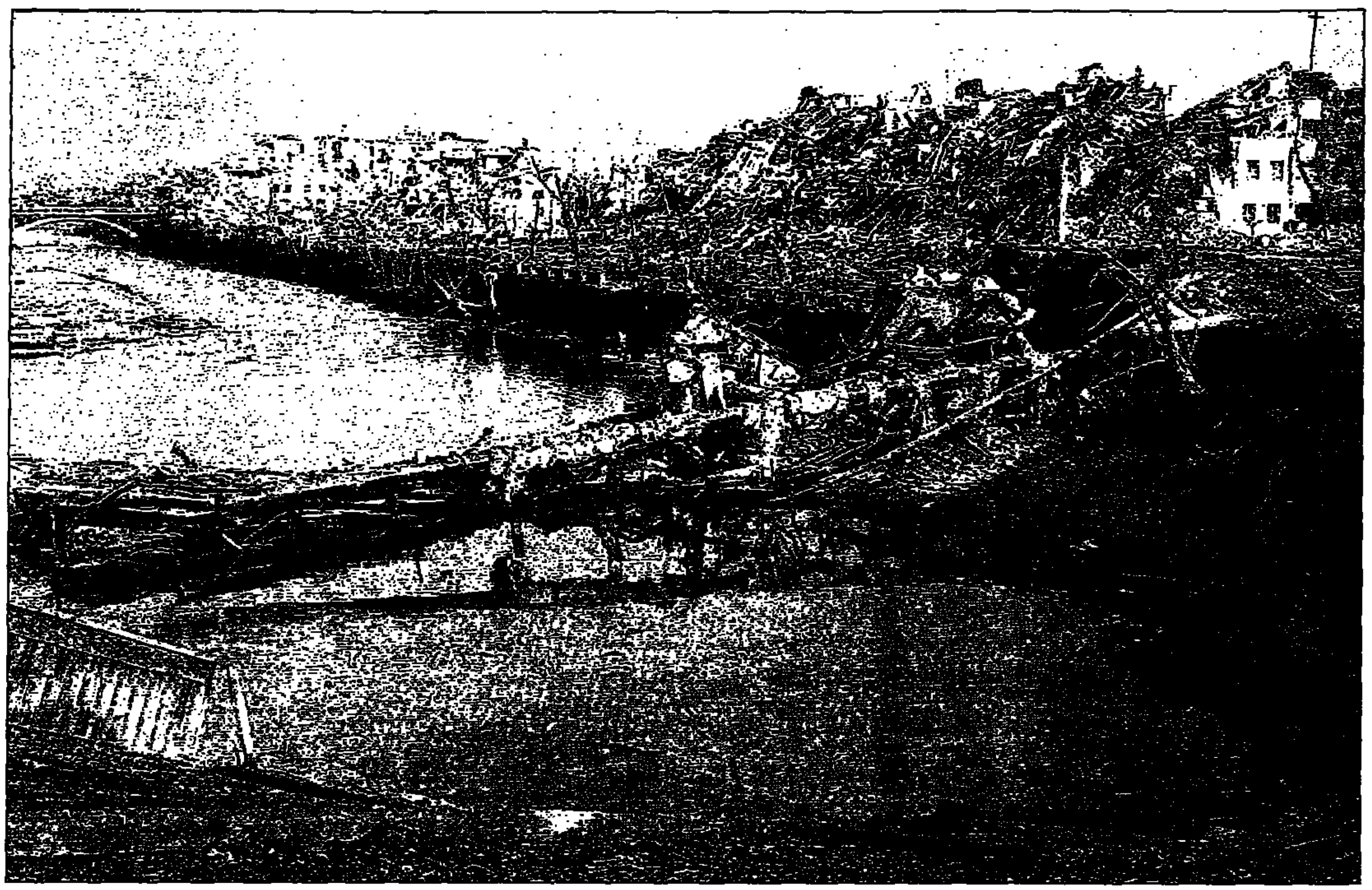
His colleague, Padraig Flynn, the Social Affairs Commissioner, was markedly more cautious with his warning that "we must avoid the dangers of a dual society based on unequal access to information, skills and knowledge. We have to put technology on tap, not on top."

The meeting was overshadowed by a series of bilateral difficulties between the United States and Europe. Al Gore, the US Vice-President, announced the opening of the US telecommunications market to European competition, as long as Europe offered reciprocal access to America. But his "concession" was met with some scepticism by the Europeans, anxious that the new rules might establish as many new hurdles as ones they abolish.

Jacques Santer, the Commission President, and Mr Gore also failed to make progress in the long-running dispute between America and EU over the future chief of the World Trade Organisation. However, Mr Gore went out of his way to smooth over the Franco-American spy scandal, after last week's leak in *Le Monde* about industrial espionage by American agents in France.

He said: "There is no crisis in the US-Franco relationship," adding that it was a matter "best dealt with privately".

A conference visitor wears a virtual reality headset linked to a camera in another part of the European Parliament. The view was altered by head movements



A central district of Grozny, the Chechen capital. Weeks of Russian bombardment and street fighting have reduced much of the city to rubble

Chechen civilians beg fighters to withdraw

From Anatol Lieven in Moscow

CHECHEN fighters, who have lost control of all but the extreme southwestern section of Grozny, remained defiant yesterday, vowing to fight to the end. Not all Chechens share that view, however.

To the south of the city the Russians have driven a large wedge into Chechen territory, and have cut the main east-west road. On Saturday, a plume of black smoke 30 miles long stretched westwards from a burning oil refinery near Chernorechie, a suburb still in Chechen hands. If the Russians can push another eight miles further south, they will cut the last remaining road in Chechen hands.

The townsfolk of Goiti and other villages in Chechen hands have begged the fighters to withdraw to spare their homes. Almost all such settlements suffer intermittant attacks. In the town of Sheli on Saturday, a Russian air raid killed seven civilians, including two children, and wounded 15 others. No Chechen military position was hit.

Russian bomber pilots are now taking advantage of clear skies as spring approaches. But Chechen fighters, despite the military odds, remain determined to expel the Russian Army. "They began this war; we will end it. They are coming to their last days," said Beslan, 23, a fighter. "Allah will help us."

Chechen commanders at their base near Sheli also said that they would fight on. Ruslan Alikhadjiev, the commander of that sector, said that "all Chechens can see what Russian soldiers are doing in Grozny — murdering, looting and raping. Chechens know that they have to fight on."

He said the main hope was that Russian soldiers would refuse to fight. In fact, demoralised conscripts are being replaced by better motivated professionals. Asked about the suffering of the civilian population if the war continues, the commander said that anything is better than surrender. "Anyway, it is senseless to lay down our arms now," he said. "The best men of our country are already dead. If we surrender now, what will we tell these men's children?"

In the market of Urus Martan, opinion was divided on whether to fight on, with a group of older men and women strongly against continuing. Razia, a middle-aged stallholder, asked: "How can we fight on? With what? Those madmen will fight on whatever we say, and then the Russians will destroy the rest of the country, just as they have done with Grozny."

Grozny short circuit kills 25 Russians

Moscow: A blast which killed at least 25 Russian servicemen in Chechenia was caused by an electrical short circuit which set off an anti-mine device, the Tass news agency said yesterday. Quoting sources at Russian campaign headquarters in Mozdok, it said the accident occurred on Saturday while a sapper unit on the southern outskirts of the capital, Grozny, was readying a device to explode mines by remote control. "As a result of an accidental electrical short circuit, the device went off." The victims included 20 members of an Omon Interior Ministry unit, four regular ministry soldiers, and a member of the federal counter-intelligence service. *(Reuter)*

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A mother and her son shelter in a sports hall in the French alpine ski resort of Chambéry. They were among thousands of holidaymakers forced to spend Saturday night in their cars or makeshift shelters after heavy snow blocked roads to many resorts.

Heavy snow traps skiers

Gendarmes reopened the roads yesterday, and heavy traffic was reported, with extensive traffic jams. Twelve people were rescued on Saturday after an avalanche in the Tarentaise valley buried them in their holiday homes. Rescue services said they had completed a search of a 26ft wall of snow and found no one else. At nearby Brides-les-Bains, four people were found safe in their car buried under snow. *(AFP)*

Bosnia imposes curbs on UN

From Reuter in Sarajevo

THE Muslim-led Government is taking a tougher stance towards the United Nations mission in Bosnia, restricting movements of peacekeepers in an attempt to assert its authority, UN officers said yesterday.

"They are certainly much bolder than they were before," said Lieutenant-Colonel Gary Coward. "They apparently wish to change their relationship with the UN."

Government troops have imposed restrictions on peacekeeping troops across the country, preventing UN patrols near front lines in the northeast of the region. Bosnian Muslims blockaded British peacekeepers at their base in central Bosnia yesterday for a third consecutive day, in an argument over the presence of Serb liaison officers, who arrived there last month under the current ceasefire accord. Bosnian troops were also blocking a road outside Visoko, where Canadian peacekeepers have been faced with increasing harassment from the Muslim soldiers.

Amid hostile coverage of the UN mission by the local media, a government representative has called for the funding of the UN operation to be renegotiated. At present, the UN troops pay for the utilities they use in Bosnia, not for their accommodation. However, the Bosnian Government still relies on the UN to ferry in vital relief supplies, especially to Sarajevo, which has endured nearly three years of Serb siege.

In Washington, Administration officials said that President Clinton is considering temporarily sending thousands of American troops to protect UN peacekeeping forces if they have to withdraw from Croatia.

IG Metall cautions strike may last weeks

From John Holland in Berlin

THE leadership of IG Metall, Europe's largest industrial trade union, warned in Munich at the weekend that its current strike action could last for "weeks on end" if employers carried out their threats to lock out workers.

Werner Neugebauer, IG Metall's Munich chief, said the Gesamtmetall employers' association, representing 8,000 German businesses, was "playing with fire" by refusing to negotiate on union demands for a 6 per cent wage increase.

Meanwhile, union leaders at one of Germany's largest optical firms, the Bavarian-based Rodenstock, announced that they would order their 1,700 workers to strike from today.

After three days, the IG Metall strike has spread to 22 companies and is affecting more than 12,000 employees. Industry experts forecast that the Bavarian economy will suffer losses of over 100 million marks (£42 million) if the strike continues during the rest of the week.

The union is receiving only lukewarm support from the public for its demands, according to a survey taken at the weekend by a Mannheim research institute. According to the institute, 62 per cent of those questioned said that the union demands were too high. The majority of those questioned said that a 2.5 per cent wage increase to match the current inflation rate would be fairer.

CHESHIRE
BUILDING SOCIETY

GROUP RESULTS 1994

The Group results for 1994 are as below:

	12 months to 31 Dec 1994 £'000s	12 months to 31 Dec 1993 £'000s
Net Interest Receivable	29,342	28,279
Other Income	5,920	6,605
Total Income	35,262	34,884
Administrative Expenses	13,312	12,887
Provisions for Loan Losses	3,519	3,914
Profit on Ordinary Activities	18,431	18,083
Tax on Profit on Ordinary Activities	6,164	6,000
Profit for the Year	12,267	12,083
Gross Capital	105,073	82,837
Total Assets (£m)	£1,419.8m	£1,367.2m

- Pre-tax profit up on last year's level
- Cost containment policies successful in restricting growth in Administrative Expenses to only 3.3%
- Reduction of 10% in "Provisions for Loan Losses"
- Successful PIBS issue of £10m in first quarter
- Capital base growth of £22.24m in the year, an increase of 27%

Paul Hughes, Chief Executive commented:

"We have increased our profitability in a very competitive and fragile mortgage market and maintained tight control of costs.

"Our PIBS issue of £10m in the first quarter has helped to make the Cheshire a highly capitalised society.

"We anticipate the competitive pressure continuing throughout 1995, but our strong capital position and comprehensive range of mortgage, investment and general financial services products will enable us to continue to compete effectively."

Cheshire Building Society
Castle Street, Macclesfield, Cheshire SK11 6AH.

ARTS THE WEEK AHEAD

■ THEATRE

India during and after the British Raj: Tom Stoppard's *Indian Ink* comes to the West End with Felicity Kendal

OPENS: Tonight
REVIEW: Wednesday

■ VISUAL ART

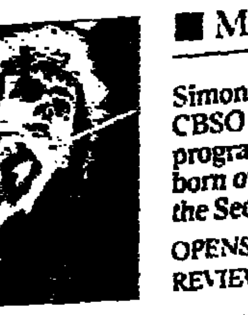
Velázquez to Goya: the beauty and sophistication of two centuries of Spanish still life at the National Gallery

OPEN: Now
REVIEW: Tomorrow

■ DANCE

Belgian choreographer Maurice Béjart brings his ballet company to London to showcase his most celebrated works

OPENS: Tomorrow
REVIEW: Thursday



■ MUSIC

Simon Rattle and the CBSO in Birmingham: a programme of works born out of the suffering of the Second World War

OPENS: Thursday
REVIEW: Monday

TODAY'S EVENTS

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Kris Anderson

LONDON

INDIAN INK: Opening night for Felicity Kendal, Margaret Tyzack and Art Malik in Tom Stoppard's new play, set in unknowable India in 1930 and a Shepperton bungalow today. Peter Wood directs.
Aldwych, Aldwych, WC2 (0171-416 6003). Tonight, 7pm. Then Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Wed and Sat, 3pm.

A NIGHT IN NOVEMBER: *Dubbeljoint* (a name combining Dublin and Belfast) return to London, with Marie Jones's popular comedy with an edge. Dan Gordon plays the Ulster Protestant finding torment and liberation following the Republic's team in the World Cup.
Tricycle, Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Previews tonight, 8pm; *opens tomorrow. Until Apr 1* 🅂

BRAHMS CYCLE: Christoph von Dohnanyi and the Philharmonia Orchestra complete their Brahms symphony series tonight with No 3 in E minor and No 1 in C minor.
Festival Hall, South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 8800). Tonight, 7.30pm 🅂

ELSEWHERE

BATH: Belinda Lang, Kevin McNally, Ian Bartholomew, Rebecca Lacey and Sam Kelly take Terry Johnson's **Dead Funny** on national tour after last year's West End success. A complex web of connections between sexually arrested comics and their admirers.
Theatre Royal, Sawclose (01225 448844). Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm, Thurs-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 2.30pm. 🅂

GLASGOW: Europe's oldest continually touring musical company, **Opera di Milano**, continues its whistle-stop UK tour with performances of Puccini's majestic *Tosca*.
King's, Bath Street ♿ (0141-227 5511). Tonight-Wed, 7.30pm. Next, **Aberdeen** 🅂 (01224 641122), Mar 2-4

SHEFFIELD: Michael Frayn's popular **Noises Off!**, the ingeniously engineered comedy that makes a farce from a farce, stars Millicent Martin, Michael Cashman, Patrick Cargill. A slickly accelerating piece of silliness.
Lyceum, Norfolk Street (0114 2769922). Tonight-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Thurs and Sat, 2pm. 🅂

SOUTHAMPTON: Last week to see **Drawing the Line**, artist Michael Craig-Martin's gathered collection from Europe, the US and Britain to bring about a reappraisal of drawing. The show concentrates mainly on Western drawing since the Renaissance and an astonishing number of first-rate names have been crammed into this touring exhibition: Botticelli, Degas, Leonardo, Michelangelo and Rembrandt, alongside recent drawings by Baselitz, Deacon, Hockney, Oldenburg and Riley. Prehistoric drawing on stone and bone, Egyptian studies on papyrus and drawing on Greek pottery are juxtaposed with their successors.
City Gallery, Civic Centre, Commercial Road (01703 632601). Until March 5 🅂

LONDON GALLERIES

Barbican: Impressionism in Britain (0171-638 4141) ... **British Museum**: Byzantine Treasures from British Collections (0171-636 1555) ... **Courtauld**: Frank Dobson: Sculpture 1916-1954 (0171-873 2526) ... **Crafts Council**: Furniture Today: Design and Craft (071-278 7700) ... **Hayward**: Yves Klein (071-928 3144) ... **National Gallery**: The Age of Elegance: Spanish Still Life (0171-839 3321) ... **National Portrait Gallery**: The Road from 1945 (0171-306 0055) ... **Royal Academy**: Nicolas Poussin (0171-439 7438) ... **Serpentine**: Man Ray (0171-402 6075) ... **Tate**: Willem de Kooning, New Displays 1995 (0171-887 8000) **V&A**: Waxworks; Women Photography and the Art of War; Ironworks and Glass Galleries (0171-938 8500)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ **House full, returns only**
◩ ***Some seats available***
☐ **Seats at all prices**

☐ **THE CLANDESTINE MARRIAGE**: *Nigel Hawthorne plays the dilapidated Lord Ogleby and directs a strong cast in this good-hearted comedy about* 18th-century greed, snobbery and true love.
Queens, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5041). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm; mats Sat, 2.30pm. Until Mar 11

☐ **DANGEROUS CORNER**: Keith Baxter directs an excellent cast in Priestley's psychological thriller about *the grey areas in people's lives it is wiser* not to probe into.
Whitehall, Whitehall, SW1 (0171-369 1735). Mon-Sat, 8pm; mats Wed 3pm and Sat 5pm. *Until Mar 11*

☐ ***DESIGN FOR LIVING***: Rachel Weisz, Rupert Graves and Marcus D'Amico in Coward's *menage à trois* comedy. Sean Mathias's awardwinner, *with even more sexual rough and* tumble than at the Donmar.
Gielgud, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5065). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 4pm 🅂

■ **THE DUCHESS OF MALFI**: Juliet Stevenson suffers, Simon Russell Beale *writhes, in a production that isn't quite* there yet but should improve before its *projected West End transfer.*
Greenwich, Crooms Hill, SE10 (0181-858 7755). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mat Sat, 2.30pm. Until Mar 25. 🅂

☐ ***IN PRAISE OF LOVE***: Peter Bowles and Lisa Harrow in Rattigan drama about being very brave when facing death. Richard Olivier directs.
Apollo, Shaftesbury Avenue, W1 (0171-494 5070). Now previewing, 8pm. Opens March 6

☐ **KILLER JOE**: Utterly absorbing shock-drama by Tracy Letts where a trash-trailer family virtually annihilates itself by employing a hit-man to kill their unwanted Mom. Wilson Milam directs.
Vaudeville, Strand, WC2 (0171-836 9987). Mon-Sat, 8pm

◩ **THE KNOCKY**: Return of Michael Wynne's acclaimed comedy, chronicling *the calamities attendant upon a* Merseyside grandmother's 70th birthday. Brian Stirner's production tours Eastern England in March.
Theatre Upstairs, Royal Court, Sloane Square, SW1 (0171-730 2554). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mat Sat, 4pm. Final week.

◩ ***THE PRESENT***: Australian control freaks bewildering a naive young Brit. *Nick Ward's latest, excellent acting but* weird stuff.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm. Until at least Mar 18

☐ ***MAMA I WANT TO SING***: The longest-running Off-Broadway black musical, based on the life of the Harlem singer Doris Troy (who here plays her own mother). Cast includes the charismatic Chaka Khan.
Cambridge, Earlham Street, WC2 (0171-494 5080). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Tue and Sat, 3pm. Until Apr 8

☐ **TEMPORARY GIRL**: Lisa Kolin's American hit solo show, on how to get by as an office temp while bursting to break into showbiz.
Cockpit, Gateforth Street, NW8 (0171-402 5081). Mon-Sat, 8pm ♿

◩ **THE THREEPENNY OPERA**: Phyllida Lloyd's splendidly inventive revival of Kurt Weill's opera. Tom Hollander sings Macheath.
Donmar Warehouse, Earlham St, WC2 (0171-369 1732). Mon-Sat, 8pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm 🅂

☐ **THE VENETIAN TWINS**: Michael Bogdanov's knockabout production loses some of Goldoni's comedy. David Troughton plays both twins.
Barbican, Silk Street, EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight and Tue, 7.15pm 🅂

■ ***WHAT THE BUTLER SAW***: Phyllida Lloyd directs Richard Wilson and John Alderton in Orton's farcical Freudian nightmare. Famously booed at its 1969 premiere, now a classic.
National (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Now previewing, 7.30pm. Opens March 2, 7pm 🅂

◩ **ZORRO — THE MUSICAL**: The masked swashbuckler rights wrongs, defies gravity and gives the audience a great time in a typically rumbustious Ken Hill show.
Theatre Royal, Gerry Raffles Square, Stratford, E15 (0181-534 0310). Mon-Sat, 8pm, some mats in Mar 🅂

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre.

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

LIFT TO THE SCAFFOLD: Revival of Louis Malle's first film (1957), an absorbing thriller about a murder that goes wrong. With Maurice Ronet, Jeanne Moreau and a Miles Davis jazz score.
Everyman 🅂 (071-435 1525)

◆ ***NATURAL BORN KILLERS*** (18): Warped lovers embark on a shooting rampage, with the media in pursuit. Wearisome excess from director Oliver Stone; with Woody Harrelson and Juliette Lewis.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Gate** 🅂 (0171-727 4043) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **West End** (01426 915574) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

◆ ***QUIZ SHOW*** (15): Director Robert Redford resurrects a TV scandal of the late 1950s. Fine performances (John Turturro, Ralph Fiennes, Paul Scofield), but not enough bite, or relevance.
Barbican 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **MGM Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Odeons: Haymarket** (01426 915353) **Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Screen/Hill** 🅂 (0171-435 3366) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE RIVER WILD** (12): Criminals imperil a family on their white water rafting holiday. Enjoyable action thriller, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Bacon. Director, Curtis Hanson.
Barbican 🅂 (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** 🅂 (0800 888911) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** 🅂 (0171-727 6705) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

CURRENT

◆ **ANDRE**: Adventures of an orphaned seal. Well-packaged family film with Keith Carradine, Tina Majorino and a scene-stealing sea lion.
MGM Trocadero 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Odeon Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

CAMILLA: Whimsical swansong for Jessica Tandy, an aged concert violinist *who rejuvenates a younger woman* (Bridget Fonda). Director, Deepa Mehta.
MGM Piccadilly *(0171-437 3561)*

◆ **INTERVIEW WITH THE VAMPIRE** (18): Tom Cruise shows Brad Pitt the vampire way of life. Dull, over-stuffed version of Anne Rice's book.
MGMs: Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

◆ **ONLY YOU** (PG): Marisa Tomei chases the man of her dreams through Italy. Lazy blend of comedy, romance and travelogue, with Robert Downey Jr. Director, Norman Jewison.
MGMs: Chelsea (0171-352 5096) **Tottenham Court Road** (0171-636 6148) **Odeons: Mezzanine** 🅂 (01426 915683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

LA REINE MARGOT (18): Bloody, brooding, occasionally impressive French history lesson, with Isabelle Adjani and Daniel Auteuil.
Curzon Mayfair (0171-369 1720) **Odeon Kensington** (01426 914666)

◆ **RUDYARD KIPLING'S THE JUNGLE BOOK**: Muddled live-action adventures of jungle boy Mowgli. With Jason Scott Lee, Lena Headley, Cary Elwes. Director, Stephen Sommers.
MGM Chelsea (0171-352 5096) ***Odeons: Kensington*** (01426 914666) **West End** (01426 915574) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

◆ ***SHALLOW GRAVE*** (18): Wickedly enjoyable comedy-thriller about three Edinburgh chums and a corpse loaded with money. Danny Boyle directs.
MGMs: Fulham Road (0171-370 2636) **Haymarket** (0171-839 1527) **Shaftesbury Avenue** (0171-836 6279) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332) **Warner** 🅂 (0171-437 4343)

◆ **STAR TREK: GENERATIONS** (PG): Talky but acceptable film debut for the stars of television's *Star Trek: The Next Generation*. Patrick Stewart meets William Shatner. David Carson directs.
Empire (0800 888911) **MGM Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Trocadero** 🅂 (0171-434 0031) **Plaza** (0800 888997) **UCI Whiteleys** 🅂 (0171-792 3332)

OPERA: **Rodney Milnes** on a superb revival of ENO's production of Janáček's masterpiece

One night in heaven

Cunning Little Vixen
Coliseum

DONALD COOPER

Vixen among the hens: Lesley Garrett (left) makes the role her own in David Pountney's triumphant production

THERE are reasons for welcoming English National Opera's revival of Janáček's masterpiece quite apart from the stature of the work itself, which surely must feature in every operagoer's top ten.

At a time when, pre and post-Stevenson report, there is much muttering in certain circles — even within the house itself — about the Coliseum's "difficult" acoustics, it comes as a salutory reminder that any such difficulties are purely circumstantial. One of the great joys of Saturday's performance was the easy audibility of the words, which is saying a lot with so (how to put it?) idealistic an orchestrator as Janáček. But with singers like Lesley Garrett in the title role and Nicholas Folwell as the Forester, a conductor as careful as Stephen Barlow and properly attentive playing in the pit, the words for the most part came pinging across with unavoidable clarity.

This is not just a matter of singers choosing vowel sounds other than those that happen to flatter their tone (save that for Bellini) and slotting consonants into the vocal lines: it is also "thinking" what the words mean while singing them.

The cast as a whole was plainly doing this, and the work came across with an immediacy of communication reminiscent of earlier days at the Coliseum, days when singers like Valerie Masterson and Denis Dowling made sure you heard every single syllable they sang. It's a state of mind, it's fashion, it's not just "difficult" acoustics.

There are lessons, too, about the durability of productions. David Pountney's *Vixen*, restaged by its original choreographer Stuart Hopps, is now an incredible 15 years old. But rather as in the case of the Visconti *Don Carlos* at Covent Garden, you cannot imagine it being replaced: if a producer gets a piece so triumphantly right, then hang on to it. Pountney's way of seeing the cycle of life, death and rebirth as if through children's eyes, creating a world of fantasy, humour and essential innocence is thoroughly worthy of the composer's own naive yet craggily intellectual vision. You watch the show both with a smile and with obstinately stinging eyelids.

I should hate to give the impression that there is anything over-careful about Stephen Barlow's conducting. He knows when to give the Coliseum band its head — rich sonorities in the dawn interlude and the final peroration — just as he knows when carefully controlled balance and clarity of texture yield richer dividends.

Garrett has made the title role very much her own in a wonderfully athletic, generously sung, irresistibly perky impersonation (she has obviously been in training, and does amazing things with her legs). Folwell has often sung the Poacher in this production, so it is nice to see him turning, as it were, Gamekeeper in a pleasingly gritty, bluff performance. This pair's clarity of diction is matched by John Graham Hall as the Schoolmaster and Stephen Gadd, the new Poacher. The latter, though, could use a few more low notes than he has yet got, as could Andrew Greenan's Parson, just as the mezzo Sara Fulgoni is slightly miscast as the soprano Fox: she has the notes, but not quite in the middle of her voice, and words suffer.

These are measly quibbles: the evening is somewhere near operatic heaven. The charlady Hens, the Owl dropping her knitting at a blast from the Forester's shotgun — fantasy, comedy, but at the centre of it all profound human truth.

POP CONCERT: Belinda Carlisle has re-formed the Go-Go's, but were this bunch ever really punk icons?

Yes, we are no Bananaramas

The Go-Go's
Empire, W12

TO anyone who thought of Belinda Carlisle purely as the short-skirted purveyor of such power-pop anthems as *Heaven Is A Place On Earth* and *Leave A Light On*, the temporary reformation of the Go-Go's will have come as a surprise. Can someone so decisively middle-of-the-road ever have been considered an icon of punk?

Well, sort of. Leadership of this cheerfully shambolic and famously riotous quintet was indeed her day job back in the days before she married James Mason's son, Morgan, a former Reagan aide, and hurried to embrace sobriety, motherhood and the musical mainstream. Odd then that she should choose now to revisit the past she shared with Jane Wiedlin, Charlotte Caffey, Kathy Valentine and Gina Schock. Well, it has been a full three years since her last solo hit record.

So, having paved the way with a brace of interviews in which she and her sister punkettes recalled cheerfully the excesses which not only made the group a legend in its own short lifetime but also contributed to its ultimate demise, here she was again, still short-skirted, still the possessor of a formidably powerful set of lungs. "Being a good girl isn't that much fun," she pouted, introducing *Good Girls*, one of the mainly vintage tracks that make up a newly released compilation, *Return To The Valley Of The Go-Go's*. And as if to underline the point, she swore self-consciously and kicked off her high heels the second it was over — an apt reminder of just how dangerous the band actually was where music, not lifestyle, was concerned.

Because all that most Go-Go's songs had in common with punk was that they sounded the same and were over in a flash. Only the trio of songs that had more of a pop sensibility — *We Got The Beat*, *Cool Jerk* and *Our Lips Are Sealed* — can be said to have lodged in the popular consciousness, though none made it even as far as the British Top 40 in its original version. So what the band is remembered for, and what actually gave it a tenuous link with the punk ethic, is an anyone-can-do-this spirit, a sense of being five girls who just wanted to have fun.

That last commodity was in short supply at the first of two London shows. Carlisle showed herself to be a real trouper, trying hard to inject life into the material and sparring gamely between songs with the sardonic Wiedlin. Yet it was hard to escape the conclusion that the band's place in history is as little more than Bananarama with attitude, but without the hits.

ALAN JACKSON

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ARTS
TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
IN SECTION 2

Preoccupation with occupation

As Coward's *Peace In Our Time* goes on tour, **Ellen Cranitch** considers how 'what if?' scenarios help us to understand history

According to an index published by the Allied authorities in Germany shortly after the Second World War, in the event of a Nazi victory a number of prominent British artists would immediately have been executed. The list included J. B. Priestley, Alexander Korda, Rebecca West and Noel Coward.

Since the list included statesmen such as Churchill, Coward felt a certain satisfaction in being cited. Rebecca West could not resist writing to Coward as soon as the details were known: "Just think of the people we'd have been seen dead with!" Though Coward had his detractors at home, the Nazis, conscious of his hugely successful naval propaganda film, *In Which We Serve*, had no doubts about his artistic pre-eminence.

Many books, films and plays have dealt with the hypothesis of a German victory and occupation of England — Saki's novel *When William Came*, Kevin Brownlow and Andrew Mollo's celebrated film *It Happened Here*, Len Deighton's *SS-GB* and most recently Robert Harris's bestselling novel *Fatherland*, now a film. Coward's play *Peace In Our Time* is one of the least known, probably because, with a cast of 30, it has not been professionally performed since its debut at the Theatre Royal, Brighton, in 1947. The Touring Partnership now brings it back in a new production which opens tomorrow in Woking.

What is the purpose of art that postulates a different version of history and why does it provoke controversy? Sometimes it is because the role of the artist is confused with that of the historian. Orthodox historians are suspicious of the question "what if?": they regard speculative narratives as problematic since the evidence for what might have happened is taken from a world in which one particular course of events did occur.

Artists, however, recognise no such constraints, arguing that fictional works inspired by a core of fact should be judged solely according to how good they are as drama, literature or film. Yet the reaction to *Peace In Our Time* and *Fatherland* suggests artists are not, in fact, as free as one might suppose. Fiction that flirts so shamelessly with fact can touch raw nerves and spark accusations of insensitivity.

Peace In Our Time is set in a Chelsea pub between 1940 and 1945. It follows the lives of ordinary people under Nazi occupation as they demonstrate that British mix of obstinacy, independence, humour and bloody-mindedness which Coward defined as "London pride". It was inspired by the poisonous atmosphere of suspicion and denunciation in postwar Paris. Returning there after the war, Coward found that his flat had been occupied by Gestapo officers and his maid had had her head shaved for collaboration. While some of his friends had suffered, others had co-operated with the Nazis. Coward wondered how his English friends might have behaved in the same situation.

> ❛ What is the purpose of art that postulates a different version of history? ❜

The Daily Telegraph praised the play for shocking the audience out of a general postwar mood of war-weary escapism, saying, "We need to be reminded, just now, that we are a people of spirit." Most reviewers, however, reacted coolly, criticising the play for being out of tune with the times.

There were other reasons people were uneasy with Coward's grimly humorous evocation of an occupied England. The Lord Chamberlain's reader commented that "the fiction inevitably seems pretty poor drama beside the facts of recent history and in my opinion it is a theme which the wise dramatist would avoid".

His comments prefigure objections to Robert Harris's 1992 *Fatherland*, that some facts are of such tragic significance that to add any fictional gloss is to diminish them. *Fatherland*, essentially a police thriller, is very different from *Peace In Our Time*. Set in an imaginary 1964, it cannot be accused of being too close to the events it uses as a fictional launch pad. In it Hitler is 75 years old, supreme controller of the Greater German Reich, a totalitarian state stretching from the Rhine to the Urals. The novel is meticulously researched and packed with authentic details of buildings and political schemes which were actually drawn up by Hitler and his accomplices confident of eventual victory. However, the central idea — that knowledge of the murder of six million Jews could have been completely suppressed — proved controversial.

In Germany the book caused a furore. *Der Spiegel* attacked it for trivialising a highly sensitive issue. In Britain, one reviewer expressed unease with "the juxtaposition of the awful fact of the concentration camps with a clutch of thriller clichés". A similar sentiment occurs in some of the 1947 reviews of *Peace In Our Time* — the sense that Coward's witty banter is an inadequate vehicle for dramatising the devastating effects of Nazi rule.

Harris defends the premise of his book. "The Holocaust was so unbelievable that the Nazis thought nobody would believe it. I think that it's by pointing out how easily it could have been forgotten that you do remember. It's vital the Holocaust isn't confined to dry academia — that is the route to oblivion."

Fiction such as Coward's and Harris's, if well executed and sensitively handled, can be highly charged and provocative. By creating a vivid imaginary history, it encourages us to engage with actual history on a more imaginative level, all the more welcome now as 1995 threatens to buckle beneath the weight of official war commemorations. Both works are a chilling reminder of how close Hitler came to invading England.

John Mortimer's reaction to *Fatherland* could equally well have been a response to *Peace In Our Time*. "I had, perhaps, been waiting for an answer to the question that must haunt all those of an age to have been put to the test: how badly might we have behaved if history had gone as he [Harris] imagines it? Perhaps what divides us from Europe is not the Channel or our innate xenophobia but the fact that we never had to live under a Nazi occupation. We never had to choose between doomed resistance and silent, cowardly collaboration."

● Peace In Our Time *is at the New Victoria Theatre, Woking (01483 761144) from tomorrow until Saturday, and then tours to Richmond, Cardiff, Norwich, Bath and Newcastle.* It Happened Here *is available from Connoisseur Video (0171-957 8957).* Fatherland *has just been released on video.*

KEVIN BROWNLOW

Let's not be beastly to the English: from Kevin Brownlow and Andrew Mollo's film *It Happened Here* (1963)

OVERTURES

Daldry tackles Beckett

NEVER one to be cautious, the director **Stephen Daldry** is treading fearlessly where his colleague Deborah Warner stumbled last year — into the arms of the Beckett estate who quickly sent packing Warner's idiosyncratic staging of *Footfalls* with **Fiona Shaw**. Daldry has secured permission from the estate to direct the stage premiere in June at the Royal Court of Beckett's 1957 radio play, *All That Fall*, although it is unlikely that Daldry's typically iconoclastic original notion of blindfolding the audience will actually be adopted.

● VIRGIN Classics is rush-releasing **Davitt Moroney's** recording of five previously unknown pieces by **Henry Purcell**. They are part of a recently discovered manuscript of autograph keyboard music by England's greatest baroque composer. The Virgin Classics release will correspond with an announcement at the British Library tomorrow about the future of the manuscript, found by a Devon music dealer in 1993.

● THE director **Jonathan Kent** will hardly be resting on his laurels once he opens his *Hamlet* with **Ralph Fiennes** tomorrow night. Beyond transferring that staging to Broadway on April 14, the director has two further productions on offer for the Almeida in the autumn: *Tartuffe*, with **Ian McDiarmid** in the title role, and a new play, *Gangster No 1*, by **David Scinto** and **Louis Mellis**, starring **Peter Bowles** as an East End gangster. And then there is the **Diana Rigg** *Mother Courage* at the National. When does the man rest?

● FIGURES newly released by the British Phonographic Institute show that, contrary to popular belief, album sales are booming here. End-of-year successes by the **Beautiful South**, **Bon Jovi** and **the Beatles** helped to push the 1994 total to 176.9 million units, up 15 per cent on 1993. The market value of this figure is put at a record £819.6 million. CD sales accounted for the bulk of the increase: up 25 per cent year on year. The singles market, meanwhile, climbed to 63 million.

THEATRE: **Jeremy Kingston** on the West End transfer of Miller's latest

More thought than feeling

After its sell-out run at the National Theatre, Arthur Miller's stirring play transfers to the West End for a ten-week season. A deeply felt work, it nevertheless stirs thoughts more insistently than it provokes feelings, even though David Thacker's precisely measured direction generates acting as powerful as any currently on offer in all London.

The play is set at the end of November 1938, in the days after *Kristallnacht* when the Nazis organised attacks on Jewish property throughout Germany, and glass from the smashed windows of shops and synagogues littered the streets. Four of the six characters are Jews but they are Americans, safely living in Brooklyn, and yet the cool, dreamlike set designed by Shelagh Keegan tells us how fragile that safety may be. The triangular stage tapers sharply towards the back, where a cellist plays mournfully between scenes, and the walls are sheets of glass. Inside Sylvia Gellburg's mind the windows are already as good as broken.

The play begins with her husband's visit to Dr Hyman, hoping to learn why Sylvia has suddenly lost the use of her legs. Tests reveal no physical cause, and to him her condition is inexplicable. Not so to us. Henry Goodman's entire demeanour as Philip — prickly, impatient, tightly controlled and dressed in sepulchral black — signals serious failure in the couple's marital relations. As if that were not enough, she obsessively reads newspaper accounts of the anti-Jewish atrocities in Germany. Because we in the audience connect these clues in micro-seconds, the first half of the play moves surprisingly slowly. The acting of the three principals is outstandingly good. Margot Leicester's Sylvia rakes the doctor with her huge, limpid eyes, mutely clamouring for the touch of love; Goodman seethes with bafflement and self-hatred; Ken Stott's rumpled, chain-smoking Hyman is a wonderfully realised creation on Miller's part.

DONALD COOPER

Powerful duo: Henry Goodman and Margot Leicester

Broken Glass
Duke of York's

Yet Miller's emphatic placing of the clues, however explained by Sylvia's urgent need to blast through the complacency that surrounds her, imparts a preachy tone to this act. It also uses obvious contrasts, especially between the relaxed, tolerant Hyman and Philip, continually venting anti-Semitic sneers.

This is the revelation of the second act, though once again it is plainly signalled. Philip loathes being a Jew in a goy society while frantically ambitious to succeed precisely as a Jew in that society. The resulting tensions have consumed his marriage, terrified his wife and finally destroy him.

Miller has telling observations to make about what it is to be a Jew — Goodman's ingratiating posture before his non-Jewish boss is horrifying to watch — and we are clearly invited to compare American Jewry's silence in the face of Nazism to the West's response to faraway massacres today. And yet while much is keen and suggestive, the play is not as good as it thinks it is.

LONDON CONCERTS

Contrasts strike a common chord

LPO/Mehta
Festival Hall

THREE decades and a world war separate the composition of Elgar's Symphony No 1 and Berg's Violin Concerto. Stylistically a gulf divides them: the Elgar a late flowering of lush, post-Wagnerian Romanticism; the Berg — for all its deep humanity — based on a Schoenbergian note row. And yet, when they are heard side by side, at least as conducted by Zubin Mehta, one becomes aware of common elements.

What Mehta's performances with the London Philharmonic on Thursday night highlighted was the spirit of introspection. The Berg, with Pinchas Zukerman a subdued soloist, emerged not as a concerto in the traditional sense of a display piece, but as a melancholy reflection on the harshness of life.

In the case of the Elgar symphony, Mehta's introspective approach was immediately evident from an extraordinarily measured "nobilmente" introduction. Hardly the marked Andante, this funeral march set the tone for a very deliberately paced first movement.

The unhurried tempo had two notable results. In climactic passages, the full orchestra seemed more belligerent than usual. In meditative vein, however, the world-weariness was palpable. Detail was generally clear, but at this tempo some characteristic Elgarian touches — coruscating woodwind flashes or quicksilver harp flourishes — are sacrificed.

The Scherzo second movement brought some fleet playing from the orchestra, whose principals took their brief solos throughout admirably. So intensely inward was the Adagio that one resented the break before the finale — the composer's built-in lowering of tension. But Mehta's last movement delivered the goods, bringing a fresh and deeply felt interpretation to a sonorous conclusion.

BARRY MILLINGTON

Mind triumphs over musical matter

LSO/Davis
Barbican

EVERY effort was made to provide congenial company for Sir Michael Tippett's Fourth Symphony. It was preceded by Midori's performance of Stravinsky's Violin Concerto — both works look over their shoulders to preclassical models — and by Sibelius's Seventh Symphony, its notional archetype as a single-movement symphonic fantasia.

Yet still its presence could be awkward. Compared with so much of what we have heard already in these Visions of Paradise, the Fourth Symphony can still seem a little contrived, caught up in a plethora of ideas and images which inspired it.

The symphony's pacing — interspersing classical structures with fantasia-like episodes — is secure enough, and Sir Colin Davis and the London Symphony Orchestra entered fully into its momentum. There are characteristic passages, too, of seductive beauty of scoring: pools of shimmering reflection for wind, solo viola and harp, or oboe, high violin and piano.

But the integration of the programmatic element in the work (the inspiration of patterns of cellular growth, and a "birth-to-death" idea) is uneasy, more a cerebral notion than a musical necessity..

Sibelius's own *Fantasia sinfonica*, the Symphony No 7, was the real focal point of the evening. Here, within a single movement, is one of the great pinnacles of 20th-century symphonic writing, its imaginative fantasy never compromised by its compression, its symphonic thinking fashioned out of a seemingly endless capacity for self-transformation.

Sir Colin's reading of the work has grown in stature since his 1992 *Sibelius* cycle. Now there is a more urgent yet still more freely breathing relationship between tempos, timbres, stages of metamorphosis — and the LSO played as if there was nothing they loved better in the world.

HILARY FINCH

ISLE LISTEN TO PURCELL.

Fairest Isle

PURCELL'S 'THE PROPHETESS.' TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 28TH. 7:00PM–10:45PM.

Europe in confusion over genetic engineering □ Solving the oldest problem in the universe □ How wildlife perished in the ancient world

Can anyone patent life?

THIS week, more than six years after the European Commission first thought of it, a directive on the patenting of human, animal and plant life finally comes to a vote in the European Parliament. Although designed to clarify and harmonise the law in member states, the directive is unlikely to do any such thing.

For a start, it may get thrown out, as a coalition of green groups is urging. Even if it is passed, three member states — Germany, Austria and Italy — have indicated that they disagree with a key section. And last week, a ruling from the appeals board of the European Patent Office (not an EU body) appeared to conflict with another section of the directive.

Confused? You are not alone. The EPO decision was greeted as a victory by both Greenpeace, who had challenged the granting of a patent to plants containing a gene that confers pesticide resistance, and the companies granted the patent. And nobody is very happy with the directive, which Dr Nick Scott-Ram, of British Biotechnology, calls "a fudged compromise" and Anna Brindley, of Greenpeace, "a mess".

SCIENCE BRIEFING

◆

Nigel Hawkes

As it stands, the directive will allow patents on human genes, proteins, and cell-lines, while transgenic animals will also be patentable. Patents on entire genetically-engineered crops will be allowed, in spite of the EPO ruling last week limiting protection to the altered plant cells.

The issue raises strong views, with opponents arguing that it is morally wrong to "own" a stretch of human DNA, and the industry arguing that without such ownership to guarantee a return on investment, a lot of worthwhile research will never be done. So far, most of the decisions have been going the way of the industry.

The EPO, for example, threw out an attempt by MEPs to disallow a patent covering the gene for H2-relaxin, the protein that relaxes connective tissue to allow a woman's pelvic girdle to widen during pregnancy and childbirth. The patent was granted in April 1991 to the Howard Florey Institute of Experimental Physiology and Medicine, in Melbourne.

The appeal board in this case dismissed all the arguments, moral and practical, against the patent. "DNA is not life," it declared. "Even if every gene in the human body were cloned, it would be impossible to reconstitute a human being."

Last week's ruling on the genetically-engineered plants seemed to offer the objectors something, by narrowing the scope of the patent to the cells, not the entire plant. But Plant Genetic Systems, one of the patentees, was unconcerned.

"We're very happy with the decision" said a spokesman for the company, based in Belgium. "This patent offers the same level of protection as before." The only effect of the ruling, he believed, would be to influence the way the patent claims are drafted in future, not their effect.

The next key decision will be the EPO board's verdict on the "oncomouse" — a transgenic mouse bred to die young from cancer. The patent, granted in May 1992, has been challenged by animal welfare groups and will be heard later this year.

Light work

THE distant flicker of a quasar may have got astronomers out of a bind. Last year data from the Hubble Space Telescope was used to calculate the age of the universe, and it turned out to be much less that the age of the stars within it: a curious conundrum.

Now a new method of measuring the rate at which the universe expands — and thus the time that has passed since it began in the Big Bang — has produced an answer much closer to the age of the stars. Astronomers at Tartu Observatory, in Estonia, and Hamburg Observatory, in Germany, have studied a double-image of a quasar caused by a galaxy lying between us and it.

The effect of the galaxy is to bend the flickering light from the quasar (known as QSO 0957+561) so that it reaches us along two separate paths. The astronomers identified a flicker along one path, and waited for it to arrive along the other. Then they used the time delay and the speed of light to calculate the difference in path lengths. They knew the relative distance between Earth and quasar and Earth and galaxy: with this and the path difference, they could find the distance to the quasar.

They could then work out the Hubble Constant, a measure of how fast the universe is expanding. According to a report in *New Scientist*, they calculate that it must be less than 70 — consistent with an age for the universe of about 12 billion years. The oldest stars could also be around that age, resolving the conundrum.

Lost species

MANY species have a hard time surviving in the modern world, but prehistory was even worse. We already know that during the colonisation of North America by early man huge animals such as the mammoth died off: now it seems that destruction on a similar scale also happened in the South Pacific.

When humans set foot on the unspoilt islands of Polynesia and Micronesia 4,000 years ago, there were hundreds of species of birds now known only by their fossils. Writing in *Science*, Dr David Steadman, of New York State Museum, says that as many as 1,600 bird species disappeared within a few hundred years of the settlers' arrival in their canoes.

Not only man was responsible: pigs, dogs and rats who accompanied him also did their bit to kill off the birds, many of which were flightless rails. "By the time Captain Cook sailed the Pacific, most of the bird species that had been there were a thing of the past," Dr Steadman says.

That the extinctions were not natural is shown by the Galapagos, an archipelago uninhabited before 1558. In the previous 4,000 years only three species had become extinct there; since then, 21 to 24 have disappeared.

Over the whole of man's involvement with the Pacific some 2,000 species of bird have gone. The dodo was not alone.

Building the new world, one atom at a time

Has nanotechnology discovered the secret of creation?

Jon Turney explains the theories of K. Eric Drexler

SCIENCE PHOTO LIBRARY

A micrograph of gold atoms in the infinitely minute nanoworld: Drexler believes such building blocks can be "engineered" by scientists

Drexler: a prophet of scientific revolution

Take two technologists: a Stone Age axe-maker chipping flakes off a flint and today's high-tech worker drawing circuits on a silicon wafer with an electron beam. In one way, they are doing the same thing. Engineering has always been about fashioning materials, and it is done by removing the stuff you don't want in the finished workpiece. You can replicate that work by casting or moulding, but there is no getting around the need to sculpt the master shape. Now, that may all be about to change.

The prophet of this change is K. Eric Drexler, a 39-year-old graduate of the Massachusetts Instititute of Technology, who has a different recipe for making things. Grow them. In his vision, the rude mechanical artefacts of the past, and all the hacking and filing which go into them, will be superseded by devices which are built atom by atom. Every atom will be put in its place by a molecular manipulator which is itself built the same way. No inaccuracy, no waste. No human labour. Just a new realm of infinite possibility opened up by a new approach to technology: by nanotechnology.

That vision was first described at length in Drexler's popular book *Engines of Creation*, published in 1986. It is also the core of a new book, *Nano!*, by the American science writer Ed Regis. He describes how the youthful Drexler, like any red-blooded American progressivist, was deeply upset by the idea of limits to growth in the late 1960s. Looking for a way of escape from those limits, he at first became obsessed with space colonisation. But soon after entering MIT, he discovered molecular biology. Inside every living cell, he found, there were all these tiny machines. Working together, they could build copies of themselves. If we could build such a technology, he reasoned, we could make anything we liked, by rearranging individual atoms.

He quickly came to the conclusion that developing an ability to work at this level was inevitable. The consequences were mind-boggling. Step by step, using what he claimed were reasonable engineering assumptions, Drexler built a new world. So far, it exists only on paper, mainly in his technical treatise *Nanosystems*, but he firmly believes that is is a genuine prospect.

In such a world, each of us would have an unlimited number of invisible attendants, building our homes, making our food to order, perhaps even repairing our ageing cells from the inside. For Drexler, the ability to control atoms foreshadows the greatest technological revolution in history.

Regis, a droll writer, has fun chronicling some of the more sober scientific reactions to Drexler's science-fictional vision. But he is basically on the nanovisionaries' side. It becomes clear from the book, though, that the gap between what can be done now — writing the letters IBM in 35 individual atoms of xenon, for example — is very far from the working devices the new world will be based on.

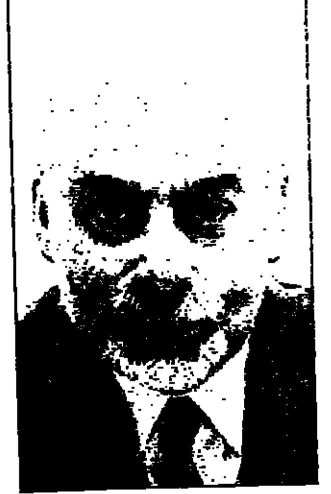
Certainly, the pages of the Institute of Physics journal *Nanotechnology* indicate that the goals of real-world nanotechnologists are altogether more modest than, for instance, milk and honey synthesised to order by machine.

Nevertheless, nanotechnology is now a recognised research field. In Britain, the former Science and Engineering Research Council took a close look at its possibilities in 1989, and the following year set up a small six-year programme, which will fund about £1 million worth of research in its final year.

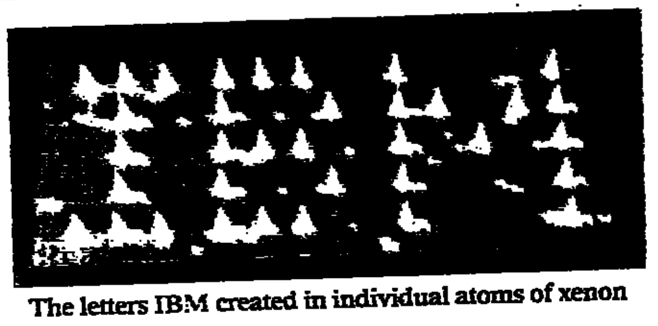
Some of the projects are trying to extend the capabilities of conventional engineering. At Cranfield University, the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council supports efforts to construct a nanocentre within Professor Pat McKeown's Centre for Ultra-Precision Engineering. This is a tiny set of devices for turning and grinding workpieces down to nanometre tolerances.

A nanometre — one billionth of a metre — is getting close to atomic dimensions. An average atom is about one tenth of a nanometre in diameter. The molecular complex which guides protein synthesis in the living cell, the ribosome, is about 25 nanometres across — a behemoth in nanoland.

Others who can contemplate working at this scale include Colin Humphreys, Professor of Materials Science at Cambridge, who uses high-energy electron beams for removing single atoms from surfaces. This way, you really could write the *Encyclopaedia Britannica* on the head of a pin, if there were any point in doing so. And at the Rutherford-Appleton Laboratory, researchers in the Central Microstructure Facility, are using finely-tuned lasers to sculpt materials in equally minute detail.



Fraser Stoddart: creating molecular building bricks



The letters IBM created in individual atoms of xenon

But all this, in Drexler's scheme of things, is still no more than flaking finer chips off the flint. What about the bottom-up, atom by atom approach which is the real key to his unbounded future? There are signs of progress here, too. Fraser Stoddart, Professor of Organic Chemistry at Birmingham University, specialises in building molecules with complex three-dimensional shapes, a study he has described as molecular building bricks.

In addition, the much-publicised new form of carbon, Buckminsterfullerene, has excited chemists with the possibilities of caging atoms in its beautifully symmetrical array of 60 atoms, as well as making "nanotubes" of carbon, for example.

Any revolutionary idea is seen by some as a redescription of what they aleady do, and this time the chemists seem to have the strongest case. The Nobel Laureate Roald Hoffman, of Cornell University, says: "Chemists have been practising nanotechnology, structure and reactivity and properties, for two centuries, and for 50 years by design." He welcomes what he regards as the marriage of chemical synthetic talent with engineering ingenuity which he sees in some nanotechnology. Others are less convinced. Professor Stoddart feels that Drexler does not know enough chemistry to establish whether his ideas about molecule-sized gears, bearings and motors could ever be built.

Other British researchers are also wary of the prophet Drexler. The man evokes mixed feelings, according to the co-ordinator of the nanotechnology initiative, Denis Robinson, the visiting Professor in Pharmaceutical Sciences at the University of Nottingham. "I doubt if he would be put up for election to the Royal Society on the basis of his work so far," Professor Robinson says drily.

Drexler will be able to live with this. He has a standard reply to critics. The key is to distinguish between what is near-term and what is long-term; and between what is real and what is unreal. Then, one must take care not to confuse long-term with unreal. There are two reactions to this. One is to conclude that the current state of the art makes some of Drexler's notions look very long-term indeed. The other is the plea recently posted to the Internet newsgroup scienanotech. "Where can I invest in this nanotechnology?" the query ran. "I neglected to invest in Xerox, Apple, Intel or Microsoft at the proper moment. I'd hate to miss the boat on this one." The replies suggested that the would-be investor should hang onto his money for the time being. Nevertheless, that is the spirit which may make some of Drexler's seemingly wilder predictions come about sooner than we think.

- Nano! — Remaking the world atom by atom, *by Ed Regis, is published by Bantam Press on March 9 (£16.99).*
- *Jon Turney is Wellcome Fellow in Science Communication, University College London*

ONLY ONE PAPER DEBATES THE FUTURE OF FURTHER EDUCATION.

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FURTHER EDUCATION UPDATE

YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO IGNORE IT.

Scare stories about plunging temperatures in the Scottish Highlands can be misleading, says **William Burroughs**

We should keep cool heads about frostbite

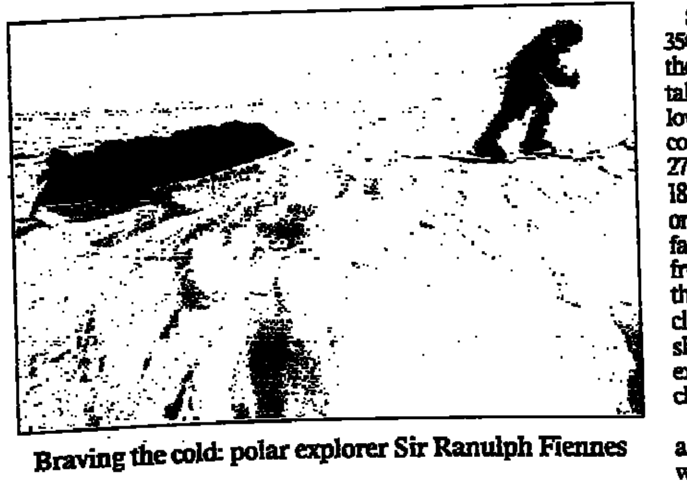
Each winter, reports of the rescue of climbers and skiers in the Scottish Highlands focus on the extreme temperatures experienced by those trapped in the snow. What are usually quoted are the wind-chill figures, which combine temperature and wind speed to produce dramatically low values. These figures can be misleading.

Wind chill relates to the rate of heat loss from exposed flesh. The original experiments to study this phenomenon were carried out in Antarctica in the early 1940s by measuring heat loss from plastic cylinders full of warm water as a function of wind speed. These experiments were designed in particular to estimate the risks of frostbite.

Together with subsequent studies, this work established how much heat is lost by exposed skin, as a function of both temperature and wind speed. To make these the figures easier to understand, they are translated into equivalent temperatures for losses when walking in still air conditions.

Because these figures can be so striking they have become widely used. The combination of a temperature of minus 4C and a wind of 25mph equates to a wind-chill temperature of minus 23C, while minus 8C and a wind of 50mph combines to give minus 34C. It is only when the equivalent temperature falls well below minus 30C that there is a real risk of frostbite, while figures below about minus 50C mean that flesh can freeze within a minute.

What can be overlooked is that modern fabrics are more than capable of providing a combination of water and windproofing, insulation and breathability to meet the challenges of wind and cold. So with the right clothing, the only parts of the body experiencing the lower temperatures will normally be exposed parts of the face. For the rest, the heat loss is little more than in still conditions. Moreover, in a sheltered spot, or better still in a snow hole, the temperature will be at worst that of still air or the surrounding snow.



Braving the cold: polar explorer Sir Ranulph Fiennes

So figures as low as minus 35C quoted for conditions in the Cairngorms should be taken with a pinch of salt. The lowest temperature ever recorded in Scotland is minus 27.2C, at Braemar in February 1895 and January 1982, while on the highest peaks it rarely falls below minus 15C. But the frequent high winds do mean that anyone without adequate clothing, or failing to find shelter in severe weather, will experience dangerously rapid chilling.

Wind-chill figures become are particularly misleading when air temperatures are above freezing. While the combination of 4C and a wind speed of 25mph will cool exposed flesh at the same rate as still air at minus 11C, there is no question of anything freezing. Indeed, climbers and skiers crossing deep snow need to be on their guard in such conditions. It may feel bitterly cold, but this disguises the fact that the snow will be thawing and on steep slopes this may greatly increase the avalanche risk.

In North America, where cold waves of Arctic air can bring sudden and dramatic changes in winter weather, the wind-chill factor has been used to good effect to warn the public of the dangerous conditions. In lowland Britain it is of limited relevance, but in windy upland areas it is a useful guide to anyone venturing out.

So for most of us, wind-chill is nothing more than a reminder to wrap up well when venturing abroad on cold windy days. As a measure of extremes of temperature it has little meaning.

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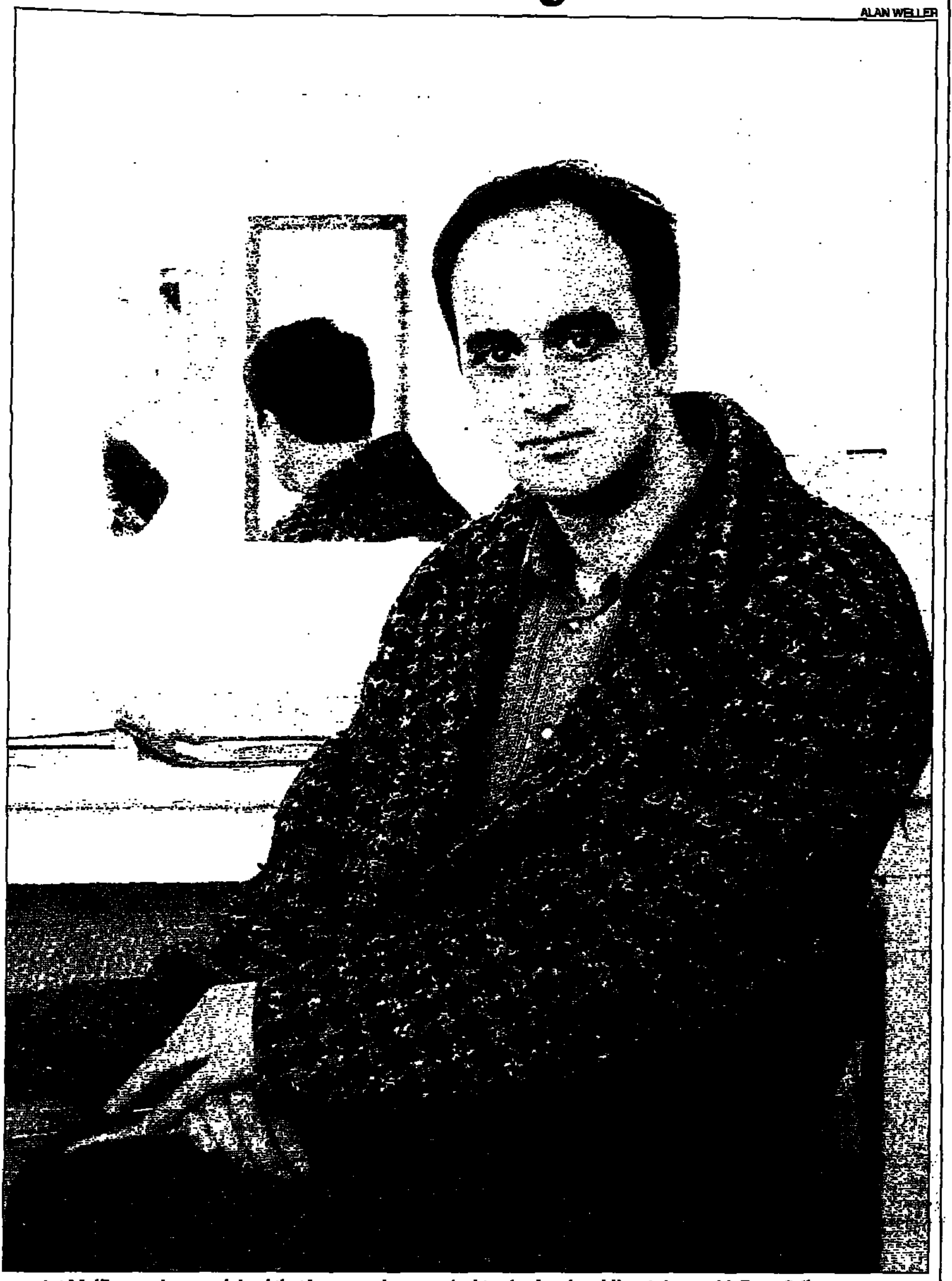
Julia Llewellyn Smith considers the career of the seductive Mr Malik

But is it really Art?

ALAN WELLER



Art Malik: once he complained that he was only ever asked to play head-nodding Asians, with Peter Sellers accents

Art Malik, the actor who seduced the nation with his part as the tragic innocent Hari Kumar in *The Jewel in the Crown*, is cropping up everywhere. At one end of the scale he is busy promoting the video of *True Lies*, the Arnold Schwarzenegger blockbuster. At the other, he is starring in Tom Stoppard's latest play *Indian Ink*, which opens tonight at the Aldwych Theatre.

Few actors can see-saw so neatly from Hollywood to the West End. But things have not always been so simple for Malik, 42. At the beginning of the decade he was collecting social security, his house in Kingston, Surrey, was on the market and the only script that came his way had the title *Patel and Smith*.

Two summers ago, he returned home from a meeting with his tax inspector, who told him he had a week to pay his debts before the Official Receiver would be called in. Before he could break this to his wife, however, she told him to call his agent immediately. Los Angeles had been calling, they wanted him for the villain in *True Lies* — then the most expensive film ever made.

"At some point everyone gets a little bit of magic in their lives," says Malik. "That was mine."

We are talking in Malik's dressing-room at the Aldwych, half an hour before curtain up. People knock at the door constantly: organising props and costumes, checking if he needed a haircut.

He doesn't — his neat crop enhances his boyish charm, undimmed since those halcyon *Jewel* days. What he does need is a touch of coverstick, to hide the bags beneath his huge spaniel eyes. It is the end of a gruelling week of previews. Malik has spent every night on stage perfecting his performance as Nirad Das, an Indian artist whose cultural attitudes are transformed after an encounter with a flamboyant Englishwoman (Felicity Kendal).

The days, meanwhile, have been filled learning rewrites and endlessly rehearsing.

Malik has not appeared on stage for ten years. "I didn't quite remember the amount of physical discipline that you need in the theatre," he says, brows furrowing intently. "It needs a change in concentration. In films one is so used to the idea of saying cut."

Not that Malik is complaining about sharing top billing with Kendal and Margaret Tyzack and being directed by Peter Wood. This is a theatrical Event. It is not, he explains, as if he would do just any theatre.

"Something has to really excite me to make me say no to a successful film career. And, on the whole, English theatre is trapped. All that anyone wants from us is costume drama. No one wants to address life in the 1990s."

It is for this reason that Malik proclaims he is not interested in the classics. If the National offered him the part of Romeo, he would, he says, reject it.

Which is odd, given that Malik did not reject being the baddie in one of the more duff Bond films, *The Living Daylights* or, indeed, a part in *True Lies*, which, although vastly enjoyable and certainly very 1990s, are hardly treasures of the avant-garde. I know, he has already offered the excuse of imminent bankruptcy, but he does seem to be using an odd criterion for choosing his roles.

Or maybe casting directors are guilty of using too narrow a criterion when they come to choosing Malik. This is a man who went to school in south London and speaks in educated, distinctly Actorly tones, yet whose CV reeks of the subcontinent: *The Far Pavilions, Hareem, Shadow of the Cobra, Passage to India*. Doesn't he feel limited by the colour of his skin? Apparently not. Once Malik complained that he was only ever asked to play head-nodding Asians, with Peter Sellers accents.

Now, however, he appears content with his lot. "Hari Kumar was a gift of a part to launch my career and I wouldn't have got that if I hadn't been Asian. And in my career, I've played nice people and bad people, men who are unfaithful and philanderers — all the parts that any actor could be expected to play. The same question does not arise with Robert De Niro always playing an American Italian. We accept that any one of his characters is different."

Despite being born in Pakistan, Malik feels 100 per cent British. He came here at the age of three, when his father, an eye surgeon, got a job at Moorfields Eye Hospital. Little Art (short for Athar) went to the local primary school until he was 11, when his father decided a bit of "reverse colonialism" was in order and dispatched him and his brothers to boarding school in Pakistan. "It was in the Afghan foothills and it might as well have been in Shropshire."

The school closed down and Malik returned to Blighty and the local grammar school, technology and then business college, which he abandoned for the Guildhall School of Music and Drama.

There he met his wife, Gina Rowe, with whom he has two daughters: Jessica, 14, and Keira, 12. Many of Malik's financial difficulties have sprung from trying to keep them with him on his global search for work.

Malik denies that his troubles are over — the *True Lies* fee went on paying off his debts. Still, he considers himself "pretty fortunate". "Yeah, I sleep pretty well," he says. "And if I can encourage an Asian whose father runs a corner shop to become an actor or go into the media, rather than become an engineer or doctor, I would be very pleased."

The fast track to literary success

Edward Marriott meets a commuter who decided to put his travelling time to productive use

Every day is the same. At 5.30pm, Chris Paling leaves Broadcasting House in central London. By 6pm, he is at Victoria station. By six minutes past, when the Brighton train pulls out, Paling, a producer for BBC Radio 4's *The Afternoon Shift*, has unfolded his laptop and begun to write. An hour later, when the train reaches Brighton, Paling will have completed 400 words.

Paling, 38, has worked for the BBC since 1980, and five days a week he submits himself to this discipline. While fellow commuters drink, play cards and snooze, Paling writes. It seems to have done the trick: next week Jonathan Cape publishes his first novel, *After the Raid*, a mystery story set in wartime London.

The book bears all the hallmarks of being written on a train. The two main characters, a man and a nurse, meet on board. The train stops at an unknown village, they alight and look around. Only one of them re-embarks. And so the mystery begins.

It has, too, a locomotive rhythm. Much of it is written in short scenes and staccato sentences. Paling will start one scene leaving Victoria and end it as the train pulls into Brighton. There is even a tip on how to sit: backwards, apparently, is better. "The eyes grew less tired watching what had passed than trying always to focus on what was approaching."

But most importantly, and this will ring bells with all those who have struggled to find time for writing, it is a constructive use of an otherwise "dead" hour. Paling, whose literary success comprises a short story and a play — both broadcast on Radio 4 — says: "I give about 40 hours to work. I spend 12 hours a week on the train — nearly two working days. It's the perfect place to write — the world's going by, and yet I'm isolated. Some of the commuter trains at night are as silent as the British Library reading room."

Paling is not the first writer to put commuting to positive use. Anthony Trollope wrote *Barchester Towers* while travelling the country as a surveyor for the Post Office. "I found," he wrote in his autobiography, "that I passed in railway carriages very many hours of my existence... If I intended to make a profitable business out of my writing, and at the same time, to do my best for the Post Office, I must turn these hours to more account."

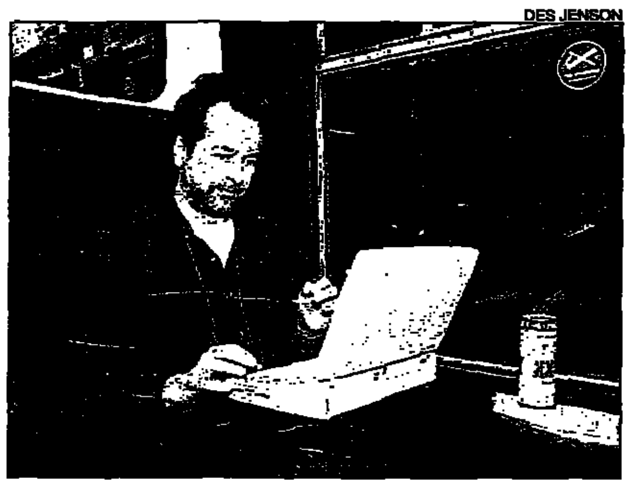
To this end, Trollope carved himself a wooden "tablet" which he placed on his knees. He recalled: "I found after a few days' exercise that I could write as quickly in a railway carriage as I could at a desk. I worked with a pencil, and what I wrote my wife copied afterwards." Thus were completed *Barchester Towers* and *The Three Clerks*.

Many others have followed his example: from Christopher Wood, the advertising copywriter who penned *Confessions of a Window Cleaner* while travelling to work in London; to Fay Weldon, who for many years took the train from Somerset to her London office; to the American novelist Garrison Keillor, who lost the first draft of *Lake Wobegon Days* on a train.

Weldon used to travel to London twice a week. She wrote by hand and found the sameness of the journey reassuring: "There were no phones, no interruptions. I got in almost two hours of solid work."

Weldon, however, enjoyed a luxury neither Paling nor Trollope could afford — the first-class compartment. Travelling second class, elbow-to-elbow with the masses, caused Trollope extreme embarrassment: "My only objection to the practice came from the appearance of literary ostentation, to which I felt myself to be subject when going to work before four or five fellow-passengers. But I got used to it..."

DES JENSON



Paling wrote his first novel on the daily train journey

Paling, despite 15 years' experience, has still to reconcile himself to the prying looks of his travelling companions. "I studiously avoid any contact. If people sit next to me I get very resentful that I might have to talk to them."

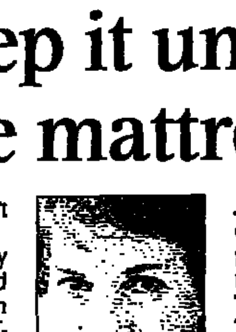
If he did, however, he would most likely find a fellow bibliophile: the London to Brighton run is Britain's most literary line. It features in Virginia Woolf's *A Writer's Diary* and Patrick Hamilton's *The West Pier*, and it transported the redoubtable Flora Poste to *Cold Comfort Farm*.

So wander along to Victoria station at 6pm today and you'll see Paling settling in for his daily session. He's currently working on a novel that is set — it will come as no surprise — in Brighton. He remains down-to-earth about his success: selling his first novel, he says, has paid for his season ticket. For the moment, that's enough.

● After the Raid *(Jonathan Cape, £9.99)*

Until our great financial institutions seem safe again . . .

Keep it under the mattress



LIBBY PURVES

Damn Barings! Overnight, they have brought a relapse of my old trouble, reducing me to a condition which unfits me for the modern world as surely as the "techno-fear" of those who hate computers. The condition is probably known as fiscophobia: an inability to trust bankers. Since the modern financial world is a seamless web of interlocking barter, I can now hardly bring myself to bank a cheque. All I get, doctor, is this terrible sense that however respectable the façade, behind it lies a long unbroken line leading to some maniac in Singapore, overexposed in derivatives and hurling money around in some unregulated personal frenzy. Is anywhere safe?

Barings were not Barnums, after all; they do not live in the bravura world of showbiz where fortune spins the wheel and nobody is too surprised when the star runs off on the Ramsgate ferry. They were never Artful Dodgers like BCCI. They are old-established chaps in three-piece gents' worsted; if one had any money, we laymen say to one another as we inattentively spread the City pages out in the cat-tray, one would definitely let them have it. The Queen does. Bound to have all sorts of safeguards, aren't they?

Then suddenly you wake up and find that a man in their Singapore office has single-handedly managed to lose the bank's entire reserves of £600 million. You retrieve the financial pages from under the cat and scan them hopelessly for clues as to how such a thing could possibly happen. And the ground dissolves, to reveal a writhing financial snake-pit.

We prudent timid amateurs absolutely hate these glimpses of the subterranean casino that rules our lives and holds our hope of security. Lloyds was different: conscious gamblers. What really gets you by the throat is the realisation that there is virtually nowhere left to squirrel away any money where it cannot be scorched by the flames of that hellfire underworld. You could keep it all in building societies like Jimmy Savile, but even they are now going on about their super new "freedoms" and "opportunities to become bigger players".

As it happened, I spent Saturday evening immersed in this newspaper's pullout guide to Peps, and had almost persuaded myself to provide for my old age by way of the National Reliable Equitable & Prudent & Not At All Dodgy Trust. No chance now: gripped by fresh fiscophobia, I will not join the dance. You could no doubt offer me a hundred reasons why my money would be safe, and even grow faster than it got diminished by the exorbitant charges the National Reliable saw fit to levy. But I still hesitate: there were a hundred reasons why Barings was safe.

Regulators? Hmm. Ask the Maxwell pensioners, prudent non-gamblers, about regulators. Some of their companies had only been brought into the empire in the six months before; they lost not only what they had paid Maxwell, but what they had paid to other employers way back to their first day in their first job. Some of them have died in stress and uncertainty during the three years before the present patch-up; some in mid-career are still not sure where they stand.

Maxwell was a one-off; but what really appals the fiscophobic layman is the fact that the City never blew the whistle as money flooded erratically in and out of a dozen banks a day in a manner incomprehensible to any normal person. Nor was there a squeak out of the Government's pensions regulator Imro. A lot of suits, charged with protecting the money of the innocent, proved as much use as a cardboard bucket.

Maybe it is not so bad. Maybe, as more trusting friends assure me, the big crashes can't touch the cautious because there is a layer of grouchy, hard-headed Scottish pension fund managers standing between us and destitution. Maybe, after all, the financial establishment is still marginally safer than the spare-room mattress. Maybe. Give me time.

From the author

ADVERTISEMENT

How to Claim Free Land and Property

My name is Simon Hill and I am the author of ***The Layman's Guide to Claiming Free Land & Property***. Further to the recent interest in our National announcements, here are the **FULL EXCITING DETAILS** of my new publication as requested by so many readers.

The guide I have written shows ANYONE how to go about claiming future ownership of all the land and property they could ever wish for FREE – other than the small cost of filing documents.

I am, as you would expect, starting to claim such property and land for myself, in my own area. Over the last few weeks alone, I have already laid claim to 5 plots of land AND to 4 properties. *ALL within a 4 mile radius of my own home!*

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HERE ARE THE KEY FACTS YOU NEED TO KNOW

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* No capital is required.
* No previous experience or qualifications are needed.
* A Car, Office or Telephone is NOT required.
* Literally ANYONE can lay claim to unoccupied land plots and properties.

HERE IS AN OVERVIEW OF WHAT YOU WILL FIND IN MY GUIDE

Contents Overview

- Where To Start
- Finding Land & Property
- The Land Registry
- Claiming Registered Land
- Claiming Unregistered Land
- Laying Claim To Property
- Making Money From The Land
- Selling Land Under Claim
- The Do's & Don't's
- Land Development
- Planning Permission
- Possessory Title – The Facts
- *Gaining Title Absolute*
- EVERYTHING *you require for* an IMMEDIATE START is included in my package

No special experience is called for on your part. You can claim *as many* plots as you wish. I would recommend *anyone* currently contemplating laying claim to unoccupied land to **delay no longer...** Simply because if you don't claim such land soon – *someone else certainly will!*

You can claim future ownership of all the land and property you could ever wish for FREE – other than the small cost of filing documents. It's just a case of knowing how, and that's exactly what my guide tells you. To order, just complete the attached form. Or, if you prefer, send your name and address together with the guide title and payment of £15 *which includes postage and packaging,* direct to my publishers, Carnell plc, Dept. LP3, Alresford, Colchester CO7 8AP.

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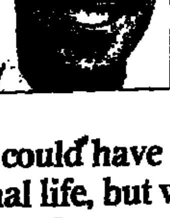
Matthew Parris



■ His charm could have changed my professional life, but with one breath I was free

Big boys don't sue. So it was disappointing to hear that Michael Foot plans to. He has always seemed to me so conspicuously honourable a man that his word alone would settle the question, and for me, did. That Gordievsky story never caused me a flicker of doubt about him. He rises above it.

No, it's on my own account that a little frisson of anxiety tickled the spine. Gerald Kaufman, I note, has hastened into print with his own story of how the Russians once gave him cash, but as soon as he realised this, he passed it all on to charity. None who knows him could doubt. But who will be next?

Ahem. The trouble with being a light and often fanciful columnist is that when you have a hilarious and unlikely story to relate, people assume you're making it up. For years I have been longing to reveal how at the age of 26 I was nearly recruited by the Bulgarian secret service, but my story would have been read as fiction.

> He might not have been able to blackmail me, but there are other kinds of influence

Alas, it is true. Foreign Office records will confirm it. I am perhaps the first man to be saved from treachery by halitosis.

... But to begin at the beginning. Few realise quite how many careers I have so far failed at, but one of these was diplomacy. At the age of 24, I turned down an offer to join MI6 as a professional spy (another story you won't believe. Can you imagine what sort of nutters are in charge of British espionage today if nutters like me were rejecting the career as too nutty in 1974?). I took a job, instead, as an administrative trainee in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office. My initial posting was in Whitehall, first in the Western Europe Department, and later the Rhodesia Department.

One night — it must have been around 1976 — I went to a party given by a colleague in her north London house. A friend had lent me his car: a green Alfasud, as I remember. Lots of FCO chums were there, as well as a sprinkling of young foreign diplomats — friends we knew professionally.

I spent some time talking to a young man I had not met before. He was a Bulgarian of about my age and rank, posted to London. Slim and with dark hair, he was (to me, anyway) extremely good-looking. His English was poor, but he seemed interested in me and my work. I rather forgot the other people at the party, and the time.

So it must have been 1am when I realised that most of the others had left, and it was time to go. It was now too late for the Underground, and my new Bulgarian friend asked if I would give him a lift into central London. I lived in Clapham and assured him that central London was not out of my way. Frankly, Timbuktu would not have been out of my way.

As we drove in from Wembley — just the two of us — conversation intensified. I became aware that the Bulgarian was moving across the passenger seat, sitting closer and closer. As the car had bucket seats, this was not a natural way to sit. I have always been hopeless at spotting signs of interest from others, and tend to prefer any explanation to the obvious one. So when even I realise someone is making a pass at me, they always are.

He told me he was unmarried. Always a rather nervous young man, I now became a little worried. Nothing like this had ever happened to me in a car. What should I do? Prudence battled with another impulse. I tried to concentrate on the driving.

As we negotiated the Shepherds Bush roundabout, the Bulgarian lent so close that he was breathing into my face. I could smell his breath.

The other impulse died. Prudence reasserted itself. I had never smelt such breath. It was simply dreadful! Catching a whiff of a leopard seal's breath in Antarctica recently, I was reminded of him. Standards of dentistry in Sofia must have been abysmal. Quite involuntarily I flinched, jerking my head away.

He retreated immediately to his side of the car. Conversation died. "Where are you going?" I asked. "I'll drop you at your door." But he would not tell me, insisting instead that I simply drop him on the Cromwell Road, where we crossed it. This I did. I never saw or spoke to him again.

Could I have been seduced? Yes, if he had flossed his teeth. Would I have been compromised? Undoubtedly. Could I have been blackmailed? Probably not, but there are subtler forms of influence. Was this his plan? I rather think so.

A couple of months later, a chatty postcard arrived from him in Bulgaria, suggesting we might meet again sometime. Thus far I had not mentioned the incident to my superiors, but it did seem best to hand this card over to the security people at the FCO, together with a sparsely written account of the circumstances. It was received without comment.

I often wonder how my life might have turned out if someone had recommended this would-be Bulgarian agent an effective mouthwash. Are young British spies trained in dental hygiene? They should be. Upon the smallest things, destinies can turn.

Barings was trading in a market that even its own directors probably didn't understand

How a great bank was brought low

The Barings catastrophe is not unique. There have been similar disasters arising from trading in derivatives in other countries, including the United States. There have been similar bank disasters in Japan. But Barings is Barings, the oldest and until last weekend apparently one of the soundest of the independent merchant banks of the City of London. For those of us who can remember the Second World War, the loss of Barings has something of the same impact as the sinking of the Hood. At one moment in time it is unthinkable; at the next it has happened.

Precisely what occurred is not yet altogether clear, though the outlines are. A Singapore trader in the bank, not in Barings Securities, was authorised to deal in derivatives. He was speculating for the bank's account, not for clients. Without obeying the rules on disclosure, he built up a very large position, which must have involved a potential liability of some billions of pounds. The position would have made a profit if the Tokyo market had risen, but actually made a loss when it fell. That loss was about £600 million by last Friday night, when some of the position, but apparently not all, had been closed.

As the fall of the Tokyo market was only about 10 per cent in the relevant period, that means he was speculating some £60 million on each percentage point by which it moved. So far his speculation has lost a sum larger than the capital and reserves of the bank — the accumulation of 100 years of successful banking (since the last Barings crisis) has vanished over a weekend. The man, who is British, has disappeared. The bank now has to be sold; as I write rescue talks are still going on at the Bank of England. His action seems either to have been criminal or criminally irresponsible.

Derivatives, options and futures contracts can be very dangerous. A similar disastrous speculation has bankrupted Orange County in California, the richest county in the richest state of the union. They are dangerous for two reasons. They are very highly geared — the Americans call it "leverage". Each pound of investment may be reflected by £20 of risk in the market, sometimes even more than that. These derivatives are also very difficult to monitor, or even understand.

A friend of mine recently visited a Swiss bank, and was shown the dealing room in which derivatives were traded. He was struck by the youthfulness of all the dealers, and asked the age of the head of the dealing room. He was 28 years old. My friend then asked whether any director of the bank's main board understood what these young dealers were doing; he was told that none of them did.

In the Barings case, the derivatives in question were options, apparently attached to shares. Even by the standards of derivatives, such options are highly artificial and may not be liquid. They are even less well understood than more straightforward options or futures. The man concerned was in any case failing to report what he was doing. The bank had a liability of £600 million, potentially even more than that, without knowing that it existed.

People will leap to the rather natural conclusion that Barings must have been a badly run bank: they will say that no one in his right mind would allow such risks to be taken, risks which have actually destroyed the independence of the bank. Baring grandchildren, who in 50 years' time will be looking back at a great family tradition that was snuffed out, are bound to think this. Yet I have known several of the leading figures in Barings over the past generation. Barings has not been a very badly run bank, but a good one, highly professional, relatively altruistic, realistic, rather conservative. The parallel of the Hood again comes to mind. On the bridge, in the engine room, manning the guns, there is an admirable professional crew. One shell penetrates the magazine and the ship is lost.

William Rees-Mogg

There must nevertheless be a flaw in the design of so vulnerable a vessel. The basic flaw in the design of Hood had been revealed 25 years before she was sunk, when her sister battle-cruisers were sunk in the Battle of Jutland. In order to give these ships extra speed, the deck above the magazine was not armour-plated: if a shell landed in the wrong place, the whole battle-cruiser went up. Barings is only one of a number of independent merchant banks in London. Hardly one of them has the capital to lose £600 million and survive. The battle-cruisers had too little armour to take a hit: our banks have too little capital.

The Barings catastrophe will have an impact on the whole derivatives market. That is worldwide, but is little regulated and excessively large. No one really knows how big it is, but some estimates put the annual turnover at several times the gross domestic product of the United States, far larger than any stock market.

After Orange County and Barings, there will be a reduction in this level of trading in derivatives. Investors of all kinds, including banks, will see that what has destroyed Barings could equally have destroyed them. This will reduce bank profits and the profits of the hedge funds. Some Swiss private banks had been making half their profits from trading in derivatives. The second effect will be much greater regulation; the Bank of England may well take the lead in this, once it has sorted out the immediate future of Barings.

There will also be a big impact on British merchant banking as a whole. In the past week, one of our leading banks, Barings, has been knocked out, while another, Warburgs, has suffered a setback and lost its chairman and chief executive. Not so long before that, Morgan Grenfell was damaged by the advice it gave to Guinness, and was then taken over by the Deutsche Bank. There may well be overcapacity in corporate finance, now that the 1980s age of takeovers has passed for good. There is certainly a shortage of capital for trading in modern markets. The formation of a smaller group of better capitalised merchant banks now seems inevitable, although that will mean the loss of their independence to clearing banks or other institutions with massive reserves. It may be hard to reconcile this with the flexibility and free intelligence which merchant banks require.

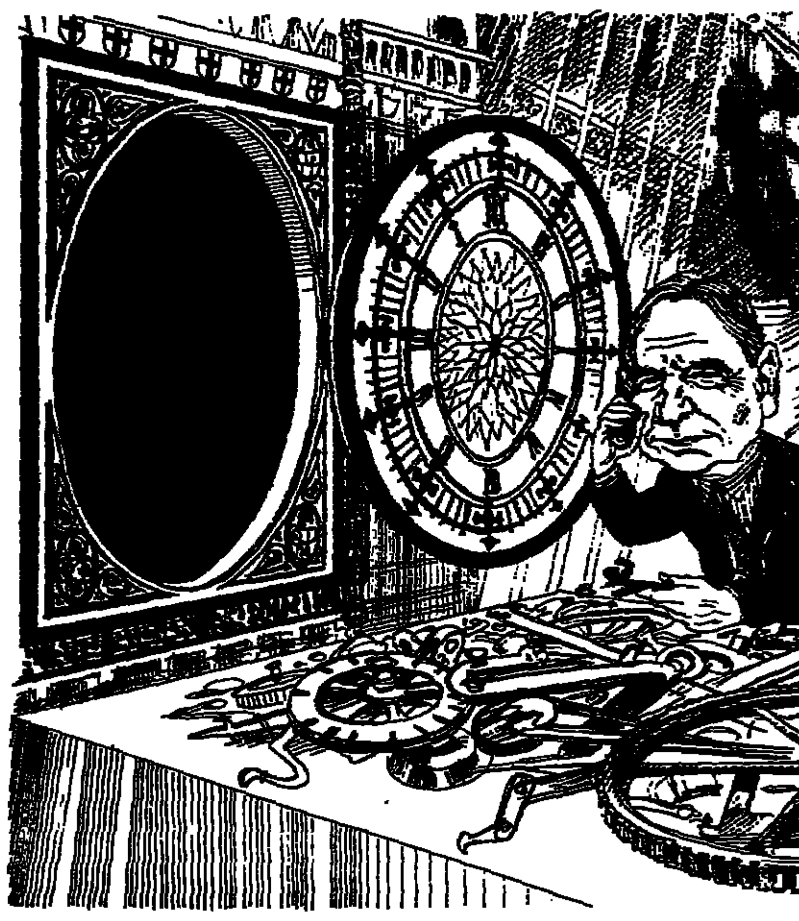
The era of success for hedge funds may also be coming to an end; indeed their 1994 results were already disappointing. In the long bull market of the 1980s, these funds did extremely well because they geared up profits which were relatively easy to make. If the Dow Jones Index went up by 10 per cent each year, then anyone buying derivatives of the index did not have to be particularly clever to make 30 or even 50 per cent. Now everyone is becoming aware of the risks of such geared-up investment.

What has happened to Barings is bad for the City of London, and for the British economy. Barings was doing so many right things. Even its concentration on the Far East, which proved to be the area in which it was ruined, represented a British effort to share in the prosperity of the fastest-growing region in the world. Its professionalism did not protect Barings against the financial equivalent of the fool's mate in chess. When it came to the point, one of the best London banks proved to be inadequately controlled and undercapitalised; it was trying to make profits in a market too large for its resources. There are many lessons in that, but there is also a real tragedy.

Needed: a new mechanism

Peter Riddell

suggests ways to balance the machinery of government



Most official committees are set up to defuse rows and to defer decisions. But the Nolan inquiry is turning out differently — to the private alarm of many ministers and Tory MPs. It has become much more than an investigation into whether MPs should work for lobbying companies, the ethics of jobs for ex-ministers and appointments to quangos. That is the immediate focus as the committee considers the oral evidence of 72 witnesses and nearly 2,000 written submissions, but it has also been asking more basic questions about the exercise of power.

The inquiry has evolved into a study of the constitution, or rather of the practices which have developed over nearly 16 years of one-party rule. That was not what the Government had in mind when the committee was set up in October after allegations about sleaze involving MPs and of party bias in appointments. Most ministers expected the inquiry to confirm that standards in British public life were generally high.

The extent of abuse is unclear. Michael Pinto-Duschinsky had a point in arguing on this page on Friday that the committee has been mistaken not to seek more facts and in relying too much on impressionistic evidence. There are unarguable abuses, of the kind now being examined by the Commons Privileges Committee and contained in last year's report from the Public Accounts Committee. But much of the debate is less clear-cut. It is not about whether rules have been broken, but about whether behaviour is tending in an unacceptable direction: whether Jack Straw is right that privatisation, contracting-out and the greater use of private firms have undermined the traditional ethic of public service by creating opportunities for lobbying, influence-peddling (however much the practitioners usually exaggerate their access) and awarding jobs to political allies.

Many people certainly believe that standards in public life have fallen and that Parliament is failing the public. In that respect, perceptions are as important as reality. It is necessary to *demonstrate* that standards are being maintained. The inquiry is in effect being asked to create the checks and balances which used to result from a rough alternation of parties in power, and are now absent because of one-party rule. That point has, in part, been conceded by the Government in its announcements in recent weeks of a code of conduct for the Civil Service, and of new guidelines to bring greater transparency to quango appointments.

RIDDELL ON MONDAY

The latter decision, while welcome, only touches on the underlying issue of extension of patronage, which the Government does not seem to understand. Its complacency — reflected in the defensive and unconvincing evidence of David Hunt, the Public Services Minister — is in itself part of the problem. Many ministers cannot understand why there should be wide concern about the Tories' exercise of power for so long. Yet it is in their own interest that there should be new safeguards concerning who makes appointments, going well beyond merely advertising quango posts.

Few ministers ask the traditional Tory question about whether they would be content to see their powers exercised by politicians of other parties. Would Virginia Bottomley, for instance, like to see appointments to all hospital trusts being made by Margaret Beckett? A stronger independent vetting procedure is desirable, but there is also a danger of giving more power to the Public Appointments Unit, since, however well-intentioned, its nominations will be from a limited list of the safe and predictable. The real answer (though beyond Nolan's terms of reference) is to limit patronage by decentralising control over hospitals, schools and the like — and that does not mean just local council nominees.

The other main question concerns the character of our politicians. The essential issue is not whether they should be full-time. As Sir Terence Higgins pointed out, with feeling, most are full-time in the sense of working 50, 60 or more hours a week as MPs. The question is whether we want to accept the growing preponderance of career politicians with little experience of the outside world, or whether we want MPs who have other interests. MPs should be allowed outside interests, but should not receive additional money for performing activities related to membership of the Commons — for instance, asking a question or arranging a meeting with a minister. The probable solution is to ban paid advocacy before Parliament on behalf of an outside interest, as opposed to the providing of advice.

Many ministers are indignant at suggestions that there should be controls on what they do when they leave office. They argue that they are underpaid and that they risk losing ministerial office or their seats quite suddenly. Hence, they should not be prevented from resuming careers in business. However, there are understandable concerns about some former ministers who have taken up directorships in businesses which they privatised. The solution here is not to impose fixed quarantine periods, which might deter people of talent and outside experience from becoming MPs. Rather, let there be flexible vetting procedures — such as those applied to senior civil servants — which impose restrictions only when there is a direct link between decisions in office and the company in question.

The Government's position is weak. Having set up the Nolan inquiry to head off controversy and reassure the public, the Prime Minister will make himself even more unpopular if he rejects its conclusions — although he is said to be sympathetic to tough action against proven abuses. Similarly, MPs are deluding themselves if they believe that a little more transparency will be enough. Even if MPs themselves continue to take the final decisions on breaches of ethics, there is a strong case for an independent, outside element in the regulation of the Commons. The existence of the Nolan inquiry has in itself shown the need for public safeguards on the actions of not just ministers but all MPs.

The money king

MANY a publisher will break into a cold sweat on hearing that a leading novelist is dispensing with the middle man. Timothy Mo, the Hong-Kong-born author who has been shortlisted for the Booker Prize no fewer than three times, has decided to go it alone with his fifth novel.

His last two novels each sold 20,000 copies in hardback, but he confesses that his relationship with Random House had become "uneasy". While so-called vanity publishing is usually the recourse of desperate writers unable to find publishers for their manuscripts, Mo is bullish about his prospects. "I am very independent-minded. I think my Chinese blood gives me great business acumen."

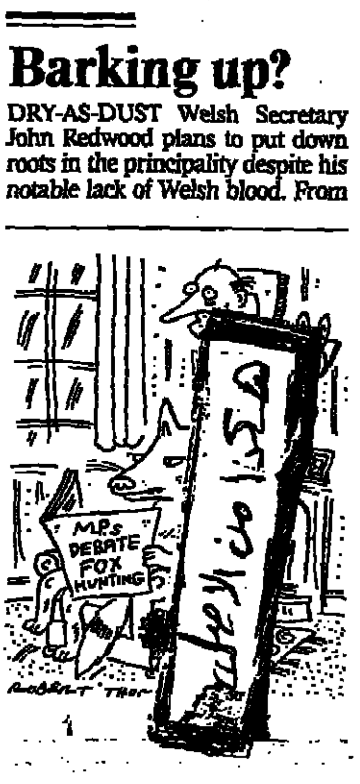
Clearly relishing the prospect of doing his own PR as well, Mo immodestly describes the paperback original, *Brownout on Breadfruit Boulevard*, to be launched on April 11, as "brilliant" and "beautifully written". And he predicts a threefold increase in his take per book, now that he has eschewed his publishers' services.

The heroine of the novel, set in the Philippines, is "an Imelda Marcos-type character" and, according to its author, the first chapter contains "some of the finest writing in English literature since D.H. Lawrence". Ah...

Barking up?

DRY-AS-DUST Welsh Secretary John Redwood plans to put down roots in the principality despite his notable lack of Welsh blood. From today there will be a corner of a Welsh field that will be forever Redwood: the Thatcherite Cabinet minister is to plant a tree in the grounds of Dyffryn House near Cardiff, to celebrate the 100,000th tree measured and recorded on the Tree Register of the British Isles. It will be — what else? — a redwood.

These sturdy specimens, more commonly found in North America, can soar to 160ft and live for 3,000 years. Sceptics, however, are dubious about the Welsh planting. The Labour MP for Newport West, Paul Flynn, sniffs: "I don't think Welsh soil will support an alien species so close to St David's Day."

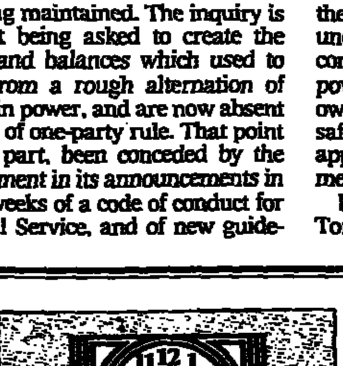


At peace

TRADITIONAL rivalry between Oxford and Cambridge was put aside on Saturday during a touching ceremony in which the editors of *Isis* and *Varsity* repeated an oath of mutual allegiance which was first sworn 60 years ago, when the universities were feeling threatened by the new redbrick colleges. The proceedings, attended by the local Tory MP Peter Butler, began smoothly on the green at Sherington, the Buckinghamshire village midway between the two clusters of spires.

Joint editors Ed Perkins and Karin Giannone from *Varsity*, and James Goss and Richard Wray from *Isis* swore the oath before solemnly dousing the document with water from the village pump to "wash away any animosity".

Then a dove of peace (in reality, a pigeon) was released. "Sadly it flew directly towards the local shooting ground," says Butler. "It hasn't been seen since."



Into the fire

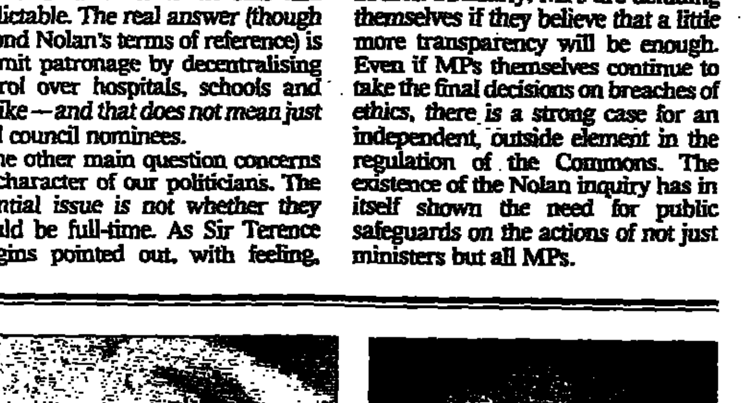
IF STEPHEN FRY thought the critics would lay off him as he agonises about his future, he will be disappointed. Yesterday's *New York Times* denounced his novel *The Hippopotamus*, newly published in America, as a structural disaster and "amateurish".

Critic Joe Queenan claims that Fry's protagonist crosses the line between iconoclastic curmudgeon and crashing bore quite early in the novel. Clearly no Anglophile, Queenan continues: "The character Mr Fry has created is that second-worst British export (right behind Christmas puddings): the garrulous twit... A tired act on both sides of the Atlantic, a dreary Johnny one-note. Stephen Fry, alas, comes across like P.G. Wodehouse trying to be J.P. Donleavy".

● *There is great sorrow among Old Etonians at the crisis engulfing Peter Baring, chairman of the prestigious merchant bankers. Peter was famed at the school for his sporting prowess, while his elder brother, Nick (known as "Sam" in those days) was a King's Scholar. Peter used to be particularly formidable at Eton's Field Game, they tell me. "He was the best bup we ever had," sighs one.*

Net loss

ALTHOUGH Gillian Clarke sensibly stays aloof from the daily rigours of political life, she has become the innocent victim of one of the recent controversies afflicting the Government. Since Mohamed Al Fayed, owner of Harrods, fell out with John Major & Co, the Chancellor's wife has been reluctant to venture into the Knightsbridge store.



Gillian Clarke: inconvenienced by Al Fayed's impolitic antics

But at a recent reception at No 11, Mrs Clarke was moaning to Tory party supporters about the personal sacrifice that this voluntary ban has caused: because she used to rely on Harrods to supply the hairnets that she favours to keep her homely bun under control.

"That's the trouble," she whispered over the white wine and canapés. "I can only buy them in Harrods, but I can hardly go there any more. I just don't know what I am going to do. I am lost without my hairnet."

● *Whipless Tory Teresa Gorman is finding herself feted around the nation. Teignbridge district councillor Bill Forrow asked to be photographed presenting her with red, white and blue flowers when she went to Brixham harbour. "I wanted to be more closely identified with her," he says. "— it may help me in the May elections."*

P·H·S

HAPPY FAMILIES

Values can span a political divide

Discussion of families has been so clouded by political correctness on one side and political embarrassment on the other that "family policy" has almost ceased to exist. Labour, anxious to claim that all family structures are "equally valid", has until recently failed to notice that children tend to thrive better when their parents stay together. And many Tory politicians, since the ill-fated back to basics campaign, have dreaded using the word "family" for fear that their audience would collapse into giggles. It is therefore encouraging to find the beginnings of a new consensus that Government policy has a role in preventing family breakdown.

Last week's report on *Family and Parenthood* for the Joseph Rowntree Foundation openly acknowledges what a few years ago would have been unsayable: children who experience divorce and family conflict are more likely to suffer educationally and psychologically than those whose parents stay relatively happily together. This echoes Tony Blair's own admission that, other things being equal, children are better off with two parents.

Nobody claims that bringing up children is easy. Yet in one sense, almost everyone pretends that it is. Parents are given no preparation for their role and are wary of seeking help. Ante-natal classes spend weeks on the intricacies of the hours before a baby's birth, but almost no time on the days, months and years afterwards. Parents think nothing of consulting a GP if they are ill or a software expert if they cannot work their computer. But they feel inadequate if they ask for help with problems relating to their children or partners.

The traditional British reserve is an obstacle. So is parents' fear that social workers might try to take their children away. This is why the voluntary sector is the best provider of help. Some small pilot schemes have proved very successful: these include sending Relate counsellors into schools to talk about relationships; the allocation of volunteer parents under the Home Start scheme to advise others under stress and the work of the Family Nurturing Network to improve parenting in families whose children would otherwise be taken into care.

Such schemes are far cheaper than those that use paid social workers. They are also less intimidating for parents. When they work, they save huge sums that would otherwise be spent on support for divorced families, legal fees, and less tangible social costs. The Government should consider the potential savings of providing more seedcorn money to these voluntary-sector initiatives. It should also consider fiscal reforms. In the past 30 years, families with dependent children have suffered far more at the hands of the tax regime than single and childless people. Many families whose parents would like to take paid work are stuck on benefits for lack of affordable childcare.

Employers too have a role to play. The old working model based on a full-time breadwinning husband with a wife to support him at home is creaking now that 60 per cent of families have two working parents. A move to more flexible hours and places of work and a stronger concentration on output rather than time spent at the workplace would allow parents a healthier balance between work and family. The payback to the employer would come in higher retention rates and a happier workforce. The payback to society as a whole would come in many more ways.

BARING LOSSES

Over-regulation now would compound the damage

Lady Bracknell was a firm believer in unexciting but safe investment portfolios. She might have accepted, however, that the first catastrophe in Barings' history — the great depression of the 1890s in the risky Latin American market — was a misfortune. Its second — as the result of recent rogue trading activities — looks more like carelessness.

How, she might ask, could head office lack the monitoring capacity to detect that one of its dealers had engaged in thousands of transactions, adding up to some £600 million in unsecured speculation? How was deception, if deception there was, possible? The answer lies in the peculiar speed, complexity and lack of transparency of the global market in derivatives — a market to which Barings, only last October, proudly pointed when announcing soaring profits.

Without a successful rescue operation by the Bank of England, what is bad for Barings could prove even worse for the City. The need for better alarm systems appears obvious. Labour's spokesman predictably clamoured yesterday for tight central bank regulation. This goes to show that the party has yet to accept that risk is inherent in the creation of wealth.

Derivatives, properly used, are an invaluable adjunct to modern capitalism. They operate as a form of insurance which reduces the risk inherent in forward trading — the system by which traders, including manufacturers, secure future supplies of commodities or currencies which they expect to need at what they hope will be an advantageous rate. Derivatives allow banks and companies to protect themselves against severe market fluctuations, such as steep rises in interest rates or collapses in the volatile commodity markets.

The value of a derivatives contract is "derived" from the underlying values of currencies, equities, bonds or commodities — or anything else which will change hands at a future date. A derivatives dealer does not make a purchase: he makes a commitment to buy or sell by a certain date. In most cases, he will have sold his rights on at a profit before the contract falls due. If he guesses wrong, as in the Barings case, nemesis strikes when the cash is called.

Derivatives are notoriously difficult to monitor: and a company can suddenly find itself severely exposed by a series of mistaken bets, each quite possibly on a smallish scale. This can happen with great speed, and it has become difficult for bank headquarters to keep track of every transaction.

Warning systems could and should be improved. Nobody has a clear idea of the scale, or structure, of the global derivatives market. The rapid recent growth in trading in derivatives for their own sake, independent of conventional futures markets, has far outpaced monitoring capacity. Because lack of information can mislead investors about the state of market liquidity, steps are required to reduce macroeconomic risk.

In the lending markets, central banks have a good idea of the scale of transactions. A Bank of International Settlements report published yesterday advised central banks to build up a clearer picture of the size and distribution of risks incurred, through regular reporting by the largest players. But the need to minimise the reporting burden on companies is wisely stressed. The proper prudential concern of regulatory authorities is with the efficient functioning of financial markets. The players have every interest in improving their own internal checks. The Bank of England, however, would do the City no service by imposing rules which deprive its marketmakers of the freedom to take calculated risks. That has been the hallmark of the golden square mile since banking in London began.

VEGETABLE LOVES

What a piece of work is popular science filmed well

Although plants do not have private lives in the usual acceptance of the term, Sir David Attenborough's television series has persuaded many of us to suspend our disbelief over the past six weeks. *The Private Life of Plants* has made what used to be called botany dramatic as well as informative. Sir David has found suspense in stamens and wonders deep inside the wallflower. Millions interested in vegetables only when they are stir-fried in gravy have been hooked on the programmes. The BBC's adventures in the undergrowth form the main attraction of its huge programme market at Brighton.

Television stations from China to Sweden have already put in orders worth £1 million for the series. And it will earn millions more this week from the 196 television companies attending the market. Natural history television sells well abroad because it appeals across cultural and linguistic boundaries. Even the most barren land is the habitat of extraordinary creatures and, as the series shows, plants. British time-lapse photography, which makes tendrils grab and grope rather than grow as they do naturally, is ahead of anywhere else.

The fascination of plants could have been made sentimental, at a time when many Britons find it difficult to distinguish between the category of calf and the category of human baby. Anthropomorphism has been a soft-hearted and soft-headed indulgence from Beatrix Potter to television's *Bill and Ben the Flowerpot Men*. But sentimental Disneyfication was avoided. The maples and ferns are still uncorrupt, though no doubt, when they come to consciousness, they will pull grimaces and jerk their arms like Sir David.

Nevertheless, it was sometimes difficult not to mistake the plants for animals, as trees were protected by their security guards of biting ants and jellyfish carried their package lunch growing inside them. There was vegetable horror in the attack of the strangler figs, and sex scandal as the orchid got her man. When Sir David described the excremental odour of the durian and then bit into something he described as tasting like liquid marshmallow, ten million viewers swallowed with relief that they had finished supper. Some of his scenes of the ways of the vegetable world needed a certificate requiring parental guidance before being shown, for fear that sensitive children might be put off ever setting foot in a meadow again.

The Private Life of Plants is a classic example of what public service broadcasting exists for. It has made science as compulsive viewing as the most sensational soap opera, without oversimplifying. It has combined education with popular appeal and shown that science does not have to be dull, that learning is the greatest fun. And now it is going to open eyes around the world to vegetable wonders, while incidentally earning Britain much money as well as fame.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Reform of pension rules for divorcees

From Mr Bruce Lidington

Sir, Whilst the proposed changes in the law on pension rights in divorce (reports and leading article, February 22) may lead to greater fairness for a small number of older couples without dependent children, they will have an adverse effect upon the much larger number of younger divorcees whose financial arrangements must take account of the welfare of dependent children.

These proposals directly echo one of the principal flaws that led to the fiasco of the Child Support Act. Divorce settlements in England and Wales are based upon an entirely discretionary system which is supposed to take the welfare of dependent children as its paramount concern, and thus pension rights in divorce are already taken into account.

The piecemeal imposition of inflexible, statutory rules upon one aspect, in total isolation from the whole, renders the discretionary system unworkable and unjust. Such an unclear and unbalanced situation, working within the adversarial system of English law, can only lead to great acrimony between the parties and make child-supportive divorce even more elusive.

Yours faithfully,
BRUCE LIDINGTON
(Chairman),
Families Need Fathers,
134 Curtain Road, EC2.
February 23.

From Mr A. Gerry

Sir, Many of your readers may not know that England and Wales are almost the only jurisdiction in the developed world where the courts have no power to split pensions on divorce. Whilst they will take pensions into account in the divorce settlement, the non-availability of other assets to compensate the wife poses great problems and often injustice.

The situation is often grossly unsatisfactory for the husband who has to part with some of his other assets instead of part of his pension. As a practising family lawyer I am confronted by the problem not infrequently, and welcome the statement which was made by the Social Security Minister during the committee stage debate in the Lords on the Pensions Bill on February 20; but I doubt that there is the political will to make the change.

The problem has already been extensively researched. I sat on the Pensions Management Institute's working party which reported and proposed pension splitting on divorce in May 1993. Its recommendations were endorsed in the following September by Professor Goode's pension law review committee, and yet there has been no government statement supporting them.

Without active lobbying of MPs and ministers the Government is likely to fudge the issue, forgetting the constituency of the divorced and divorcing, family lawyers, the Family Law Bar, and many other groups who would like to see this reform of the law. I urge your readers to voice their views strongly.

Yours sincerely,
ANDREW GERRY,
Withers (solicitors),
12 Gough Square, EC4.

From District Judge C. J. Tromans

Sir, I am puzzled by the remark attributed to Baroness Young in your report of February 22 that "divorce courts in England and Wales are not obliged to take a husband's pension rights into account when making divorce settlements".

Section 25 of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973 requires the court, when ordering financial provision in a case of divorce, to have regard to eight specified criteria. The final criterion specifically provides that the court must consider the value to each of the parties to the marriage of any benefit (for example, a pension) which, by reason of the dissolution of the marriage, that party will lose the chance of acquiring.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER TROMANS,
The Law Courts,
Armada Way, Plymouth, Devon.
February 23.

From Mr Gerald Bartlett

Sir, Your editorial of February 22, "Home and alone", made a strong case for the right of divorced wives to be entitled to a share of their former husbands' pensions.

There exist divorced husbands who, for reasons of unemployment, illness, disablement or choice, stayed at home while their wives worked. They did many of the things wives were traditionally expected to do: ensured that the children were taken to school and collected; cleaned; did decorating and performed DIY functions; cooked; and helped to support their wives in most of the ways a wife traditionally supports a husband.

So, logically, why should such a divorced husband not be entitled to a share of the pension of his former wife?

Yours faithfully,
GERALD BARTLETT,
19 Peckarmans Wood, SE26.

Letters to the Editor should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be sent to a fax number — 0171-782 5046.

Shedding light on UK incomes gap

From Sir Peter Barclay

Sir, Your leader of February 11 on the Joseph Rowntree Foundation's recently published *Inquiry into Income and Wealth* argued that statistics comparing incomes in Britain with those in other countries do not compare like with like because they cover different time periods.

This was no accident: our report analysed the extent to which the gap has widened, either from the date when the available statistics begin or, if there had been a change of trend, from the date in each country when incomes began to move further apart. We regarded this as preferable to giving fixed dates, which would tend to show up the United Kingdom in a worse light by covering some years when the gap was still narrowing in other countries.

The evidence is clear that the UK's income gap has widened faster than in almost all comparable countries and that the overall growth in the "inequality index" in the UK was greater than in any other country for which statistics are available.

Your second criticism was that, in terms of *absolute poverty*, those in the lowest 10 per cent range can only be shown to have got poorer, in real terms, if the figures are "manipulated" by removing housing costs.

There is an important explanation to this. Those on lower incomes who receive housing benefit have their rent covered in full; if rents rise, housing benefit goes up by the same amount. Rents for those on housing benefit have risen by substantially more than general inflation over the last 15 years, so "income" from housing benefit has risen commensurately.

However, this extra "income" is exactly matched by extra costs. It would thus be ludicrous to claim that the rise represents any narrowing between those on lower incomes and the rest. The Government's "after housing costs" figures, which avoid this problem, show clearly that people in the middle of the bottom tenth of incomes were worse off, in absolute terms, in the early 1990s compared with those in an equivalent position in 1979.

In his letter of February 20 Mr Peter Thurnham, MP, says that there are people in the bottom income group who actually spend more than the average. A small number of these may indeed be people lying about their incomes; but most of this minority group are people who, at the time of the survey, were running up debt, running down their capital or spending redundancy payments in ways which are, of course, unsustainable.

Mr Thurnham also points to the increase in consumer durables — such as telephones and fridge-freezers — in the home. An undoubted benefit of recent years is the lower real cost and increased availability of many such products. But the official figures show the overall income and expenditure, thereby balancing the items on which more is spent with those on which households have cut back.

The government statistics indicate that the distribution of income is wider today than at any time recorded since the Second World War.

Yours faithfully,
PETER BARCLAY
(Chairman, JRF Income and Wealth Inquiry),
Joseph Rowntree Foundation,
The Homestead, 40 Water End, York.

Tax changes to benefit the family

From the Secretary of State for Health

Sir, At the heart of the Rowntree report on the family (details, February 24) is an encouraging message which some commentators, including Janet Daley (February 23), have tended to overlook. The conventional family is still by far the norm: seven out of ten children today live with two parents.

I believe that a stable two-parent family provides the best opportunity for raising children in the loving environment they need. But it is a large step from saying that to forcing parents to remain in a loveless marriage in a vain attempt to stem the tide of divorce. The right way is a policy which promotes the saving of marriages but accepts that where divorce is inevitable it should be as unconfrontational as possible.

The Rowntree report criticises the tax system which, it says, has over three decades discriminated against married couples with children. Yet how we are taxed has evolved to recognise the growing independence of women, many more of whom now have jobs. This is deep-seated change. It has created tax reform, not the other way round. The old child tax allowance favoured the better-off. To return to such a system would do so again. It is better to concentrate help where it is most needed: on families with lower incomes. The Government's system of family credit achieves this aim. The new childcare allowance is a further measure to give families who most need help a leg up into independence.

The Government is extending to all parents choice and influence over their children's education. The revolution in home ownership has created a new generation no longer answerable to authority for where they live.

On average, families have seen their incomes rise by over one third ahead of inflation since 1979. Society benefits from economic policies which create wealth, spread wealth and allow its members to keep as much of their own money as possible. This is the Government's agenda. It is one which works for families of all types in all circumstances.

Yours sincerely,
VIRGINIA BOTTOMLEY,
Department of Health,
Richmond House, 79 Whitehall, SW1.

NHS salaries

From Mr Roger Fox

Sir, Your report, "Minister pledges NHS job fairness" (February 15, earlier editions), and the letter from the Minister, Gerald Malone, in the same issue are welcome signs that the Government is beginning to respond to public concern about the NHS boards. As one who has had the privilege of serving on such a board, in both a paid and unpaid capacity, I believe that the issue of payment should also be aired.

Non-executive directors are paid £5,000 per annum. I would argue that at this level of payment the spirit of voluntarism, which is especially valuable in the health services, is undermined. There are many excellent non-executive directors in the NHS and it is difficult to argue that a salary makes them either keener or more dedicated board members.

The present system and the level of public criticism combine to diminish their contribution in the eyes of many outsiders.

Yours faithfully,
ROGER FOX,
53 The Avenue, Chiswick, W4.

Oxbridge club

From Dr J. R. Maddicott

Sir, There are many matters of real concern in higher education on which the heads of 69 Oxbridge colleges might have chosen to concert their forces: for example, the disintegrating system of student finance and the Government's erosion of college fee income.

It is shameful and also mildly ridiculous that such an unprecedented display of collegiate firepower has instead been directed, with such self-righteousness, at the entirely trivial target of the Oxford and Cambridge Club's membership arrangements [letters, February 23, 25].

Yours faithfully,
J. R. MADDICOTT,
40 Victoria Road, Oxford.
February 23.

Happy thought

From Mr E. G. Mosely

Sir, Your illustration of paintings from Gloucester Royal Hospital at the Barbican Centre (Body and Mind, February 16) reminded me that whilst I was a patient there about six years ago, I was able to watch from my ward the construction of a new wing.

Glaziers, when they put in a window, often whitewash a large "X" on the glass to warn people that it is there. These workmen used other letters, which spelt out "Get well soon".

Yours truly,
E. G. MOSELY,
86 The Rutts,
Bushey Heath, Hertfordshire.

Gas by direct debit

From Mr Frank Rich

Sir, Your report (February 18) that hundreds of gas customers have been double-charged has revealed an additional startling fact. It appears that British Gas has persuaded more than a million customers to agree to collection of bills by direct debit, by offering them a discount at a resounding 5 per cent.

Such aggressive offers of incentives create an uneasy suspicion that we are not being told everything. What undisclosed powers does the system confer on a large organisation at the expense of the individual customer?

People who do not wish to allow access to their bank accounts by direct debit should be entitled to refuse without being penalised in any way.

Yours faithfully,
FRANK RICH,
9 Garden Close,
Hampton, Middlesex.
February 18.

Vox pop

From Mr W. E. Schofield

Sir, The surgeon who attended my dislocated thumb last year explained that after he had popped it back in (letters, February 8, 11, 15, 16) it would need a plaster cast to stop it popping back out again.

Couldn't be clearer.

Yours faithfully,
W. E. SCHOFIELD,
Bryher, Chatfield Road,
Cuckfield,
Haywards Heath, West Sussex.
February, 17.

A livelier profile for amateur music

From the Chairman of the National Federation of Music Societies

Sir, Sixty years ago today 27 musicians, including the composer Sir George Dyson, met in York to share their concerns about inadequate funding for amateur music and the lack of training opportunities for conductors. How little has changed!

Out of the 1935 meeting was born the National Federation of Music Societies, which now represents over 1,500 choirs, orchestras and music clubs nationwide and is the national voice for all who promote live music in the community. Members receive a wide range of services, including training opportunities designed to improve both artistic and administrative skills.

As we prepare to celebrate our diamond jubilee there are some encouraging portents: among them the blurring of distinctions between the amateur and professional sectors of the music industry, the recognition that community-based arts activities are worth encouragement, and the National Lottery.

However, there are also several worrying threats to amateur music in particular. The reduction in schools music tuition is already causing orchestras difficulties in recruiting young players. The imposition of competitive tendering for leisure services and the general squeeze on local authority funding has seen a reduction in the availability of "in-kind" benefits such as amateur rates for rehearsal space and equipment hire.

Through our diamond jubilee we hope to raise the profile of live amateur music. The activities of our member societies are frequently dynamic and innovative: in recent years we have encouraged enterprise in programming, we have endeavoured through schools workshops to ensure that children do not miss early and vital musical opportunities, and we continue to give thousands of young professional musicians their first crucial engagements.

Our tradition of amateur music is envied throughout the world. In 1995 let us ensure that the investment made by our predecessors 60 years ago is preserved and nurtured.

Yours sincerely,
RODERICK J. WYLIE,
Chairman, National Federation of Music Societies,
Francis House, Francis Street, SW1.
February 23.

Phoneday fears

From Dr Antony Warren

Sir, Surely it is of little consequence if four out of ten businesses have yet to respond to Oftel's changes (report, February 20). They can safely assume that their callers will be well aware of them and adjust automatically. Stationery and signs can wait until they are due for renewal.

More disruptive will be the much less well publicised fact that, according to a widely circulated BT leaflet, there are at least 42 dialling codes — for free phone services, mobile phones, premium and reduced-rate services, etc — that will not receive an extra "1".

Applying the instruction "Area codes beginning '0' will start '01'" to these will cause widespread confusion. They should all be changed as soon as is technically possible.

Yours faithfully,
ANTONY WARREN,
4 Pearce Close, Cambridge.

From Mr Michael Van Moppes

Sir, With only six weeks to go before Phoneday, BT is still instructing callers to use the old codes. In this area alone (I dare say there are many others) callers dialling recently changed numbers are frequently instructed by recorded message to redial, using a code into which the new "1" has not yet been inserted.

A multinational company so mismanaged as to give customers instructions which are obsolete under its own rules does not deserve the right to inconvenience citizens and damage business. Phoneday should be frozen until BT has brought its own communications up to date.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL Van MOPPES,
Stonebridge Farmhouse,
Breadsell Lane, St Leonards, Sussex.
February 24.

From Mr Ronald Galliers

Sir, On reading my latest BT statement, dated February 16, I find that their fax number, printed at the top, still reads 081 . . . . , and that my own phone number is still shown as beginning 071 . . .

The bill was accompanied by a booklet explaining "phONEday" and urging me to "make the change now". I have.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD GALLIERS,
22a Canonbury Park North, N1.

From Mr David Morton

Sir, I have calculated that to dial 071 takes 1.73 seconds and to dial 0171 takes 2.62 seconds.

It would be interesting to know how many telephone calls are made every day in Britain and the consequent waste of time thus imposed by BT.

Regards,
DAVID MORTON,
5 Westmoreland Terrace, SW1.

SOCIAL NEWS

Birthdays today

Mr Paddy Ashdown, MP, 54; Lord Belhaven and Stenton, 68; Sir Michael Butler, pro-provost and chairman of council, Royal College of Art, 68; Mr Stephen Curtis, former chief executive, DVLA, 47; Sir Peter Emery, MP, 69; Viscount Head, 58.

Mr Mervyn Jones, author, 73; Mr Michael Kaye, former director, City of London Festival, 70; Mrs Barbara Kelly, former chairman, Scottish Consumer Council, 55; Sir Hugh Leggatt, art dealer, 70; Mr Edward Lucie-Smith, poet and art critic, 62.

Mr Ian McGarry, general secretary, British Actors' Equity Association, 54; Mr Geoffrey Mailland Smith, chairman, Sears, 62; Mr Ralph Nader, consumer protection pioneer, 61; Rabbi Julia Neuberger, 45; Mr Alberto Remedios, opera and concert singer, 60.

Mr Gene Sarazen, golfer, 93; Professor Roger Scruton, philosopher, 51; Mr M.M. Shearer, Lord Lieutenant of Shetland, 71; Miss Antoinette Sibley, prima ballerina, 56.

Sir Andrew Sloan, former Chief Constable, Strathclyde, 64; Mr Timothy Spall, actor, 38; Miss Elizabeth Taylor, actress, 63; Air Marshal Sir Sandy Wilson, 54; Lord Young of Graffham, 63.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Constantine I, The Great, Roman emperor 312-337 AD, Naissus, Upper Moesia, 274; Edward Cave, publisher, Newton, Warwickshire, 1691; James Robinson Planché, dramatist, London, 1796; William George Frederick Cavendish Bentinck, Lord George Bentinck, statesman, Welbeck Abbey, 1802; Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, poet, Portland, Maine, 1807; Dame Ellen Terry, actress, Coventry, 1847; Sir Hubert Parry, composer, Bournemouth, 1848; Rudolph Steiner, founder of anthroposophy, Kraljevic, Austria, 1861; Marino Marini, sculptor, Pistoia, Italy, 1901; John Steinbeck, novelist, Salinas, California, 1902.

DEATHS: John Evelyn, diarist, Wotton, Surrey, 1706; John Arbuthnot, physician, mathematician and wit, London, 1735; Adam Sedgwick, geologist, London, 1873; Samuel Langley, aeronautics pioneer, Aiken, South Carolina, 1906; Ivan Pavlov, physiologist, Leningrad, 1936; Peter Behrens, architect, Berlin, 1940; Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart, diplomat and writer, Hove, Sussex, 1970.

The first Russian Embassy opened in London, 1557.

The British Labour Party was founded, 1900.

The Reichstag fire, Berlin, 1933.

General Franco's rebel Nationalist *Government was recognised by* Britain and France, 1939.

The Gulf War ended, 1991.

Dinner

Anglo-German Officers' Association

Field Marshal Sir Nigel Bagnall and General H.-H. von Sandrart presided jointly at a dinner held on Saturday in Chatham after the annual international seminar of the Anglo-German Officers' Association. Among those present were:

Lady Bagnall, Field Marshal Sir Peter and Lady Inge, General Sir Charles and Lady Guthrie, Air Chief Marshal Sir Anthony and Lady Skingsley, General Sir John and Lady Stibbon, General and Frau Helge Hansen, General Klaus Naumann, Lieutenant-General Sir Anthony Mullens, Major-General W.J. Courage, Flottilenadmiral K.M. Reichert and Genmajs Eberlein M.R.F. Gerber, C.H. Lichel, K. Oltmanns, H. Schmidt-Petri and Graf B. von Stauffenberg.

Royal engagements

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will hold a reception for the winners of The Queen's Awards for Export, Technological and Environmental Achievements at *Buckingham Palace at 6.00pm.* The Duke of Gloucester, the Duke of Kent and Princess Alexandra will also attend.

The Princess Royal will open the mobilising and communications centre at the Somerset Fire Brigade Headquarters, Hestercombe House, Cheddon Fitzpaine, Taunton, Somerset, 11.55am; and, as Patron of The Butler Trust, will visit HM Prison Dorchester at 1.55pm.

Lord Hoffmann

The life barony conferred upon Sir Leonard Hubert Hoffmann, a Lord Justice of Appeal, has been gazetted by the name, style and title of Baron Hoffmann, of Chedworth in the County of Gloucestershire.

Nature notes

Redwings are small thrushes *from northern Europe with a* white eyestripe, and a red stain under their wings that is very noticeable when they fly up. Flocks of them can be seen feeding in the fields, or singing a confused, babbling song in trees along the field-edges.

Flocks of starlings sometimes sing in trees alongside them: these may be winter *visitors that have just come* back from Ireland on their *way home to central Europe.*

The first lapwings are returning to their territories on farmland and moorland. The males declare their presence by rising into the air, then tumbling wildly down again with flashing black and white wings, and making the "peewit" cry from which this species takes its other name.

Primroses are out on railway embankments in the West Country. In oak and hornbeam woods, dog's mercury is in bloom: its tiny yellow-green flowers are no bigger than a few grains of pollen from other plants. Bluebell leaves often grow near dog's mercury. They are bright green, very glossy and curve inwards slightly, so when the light falls on them they seem to have a white line down the centre.

DJM

The redwing

MARTIN BEDDALL

Squadron Leader John Bloomfield taking a tour round Hadleigh Guildhall, Suffolk. He explains the changing use of building materials

Tourism benefits from the lure of heritage

By Marianne Darch

BRITISH heritage courses are expected to draw more visitors than ever this summer. Some are so popular that waiting lists have been drawn up.

Britain's history is seen by the British Tourist Authority as the biggest attraction for *the 22 million visitors it expects* this year, a rise of 10 per cent on last year.

Courses have been modelled as package holidays for intellectuals, and include lectures and field trips. There are long weekends looking at East Anglian houses and gardens, studies of Shakespeare at Stratford-upon-Avon and *symposiums* on the Duke of Wellington.

The Green Man and Paganism, a £255 four-day course in May run by Ace Study Tours, Cambridge, is already oversubscribed by 200 per cent. The company says interest in its UK-based residential historical courses is increasing steadily from *people both at home* and abroad.

The Summer Academy, which operates out of the University of Canterbury, says its 63 heritage courses are the most popular in its range of study holidays. *Lou*ise Smith, the acadamey's reservations assistant, said: "We expanded our historical programme this year and welcomed three new universities — Lancaster, Oxford (Keble College) and Cambridge (Madingley Hall) — into our programme.

"We now offer more than 97 *courses in general in* 13 locations, many of which are nearly or fully booked. Some of the most popular courses such as *Hadrian's* Wall and the Roman Army are running twice."

Historical study courses are intended to challenge the mind without excluding those who have no previous knowledge or understanding of the subject. They draw together people of all ages and backgrounds, although most centres agree the majority of customers are middle-aged or recently retired. There has also been a marked increase in the number of single women.

Squadron Leader John *Bloomfield runs weekends in* May and October on medieval buildings for the Field Studies Council at Flatford Mill in Essex. *He has been* involved in historical courses for more than 25 years. "They have become increasingly popular in the past few years because people are becoming more aware of their environment and responsibilities to preserve the past, partly due to the efforts of better conservation officers. The changing pattern of work has also helped. People are retiring earlier and developing more *interest in maintaining their* heritage," he said.

Squadron Leader Bloomfield takes groups of about 15 people on excursions around Suffolk and Essex to look at the changing use of building materials and house styles through the centuries. "I concentrate on timber-framed and early brick buildings from the medieval period to the late Georgian.

"People are often interested in the period of their own homes and *have* a tremendous time talking with other intelligent people on these courses. A lot of listed buildings in the Suffolk area have pub signs outside which also helps," he said.

*For those interested in his*toric warfare, Holts' Battlefield Tours in Kent specialise in ancient and modern military history. They introduced eight UK-based tours this year, from an all-inclusive long weekend in Northamptonshire on the Battle of Naseby at £195, to an all-inclusive three-day symposium on Wellington at £185.

Ace Study Tours has run domestic and foreign historical courses for more than 35 years and offers some of the most unusual British explorations around. The fully *booked Green Man course* based in Sheffield will look at legend and motif, from Celtic head veneration to Scandinavian paganism and the medieval romance of Gawaine and the Green Knight.

Lynn Bowles from Ace said: "People like a different twist from normal tourist packages and are fascinated by historical figures and settings. Our tours are mostly one-offs and have a theme. An expert guide takes an average of 25 people to sites they might not have *thought of visiting.* All elements are well threaded together with the rest of the course which people find very satisfying in a holiday."

Reigate Grammar School

Two Receptions for Old Reigatians and their families will be held at the School on Thursday, March 16, at 8.00pm, and Saturday, March 18, at 11.00am, when the Head*master will speak* about the Governors' current Development Programme for Sport, Art and Technology. Any former pupil of Reigate Grammar School who has not yet received an invitation is asked to write to the School or to telephone the Headmaster's Secretary (0737 222231), so that our records of Old Reigatians can be updated.

Birkdale School

Sixth Form Scholarships

Major Scholarships: Victoria Emmerson, Sheffield High; James Nadin, Birkdale.

Minor Scholarship: Chika Uzoigwe, Birkdale.

Exhibitions: Thomas Adams, Birkdale; Katherine Bell, Sheffield High; Leanne Dunlop, Brantwood; *Prakash Saha, Birkdale; Ruhi Singh,* St Elphin's, Matlock.

11+ Scholarships

Major Scholarships: Matthew Armstrong, Woodsetts Junior School, Worksop; Thomas Monfredi, Mylnhurst Convent School.

Minor Scholarships: Ramanan Krishnathasan, Rudston Prep School, Rotherham; Edward Milsom, Birkdale Prep School.

Northbourne Park School

The Governors of Northbourne Park School, Betteshanger, Kent, announce the appointment of Mr Fergal Roche as Headmaster from the beginning of Summer Term 1995.

Memorial services

Sir Gordon Whitteridge

The Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs was represented by Sir Roger Hervey and the Permanent Under-Secretary of State and Head of the Diplomatic Service by Mr David Dain at a service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Gordon Whitteridge held on Saturday at Seale Parish Church, Farnham, Surrey. The Rev N.S. McGregor officiated. *Mr Dennis Hedges* read from John Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress* and Mr William Streatfeild gave an address.

Major Urwin Thornburn

A memorial service for Major Urwin Thornburn, former Headmaster of Colfox School, was held on Saturday at St Mary's, Bridport, Dorset.

The Rev John Record officiated. The Rev Trevor Stubbs read the lesson and Mr Bruce Critchinson paid tribute.

Miss Elizabeth Thornburn, daughter, played the organ during the service.

Mr Norman Beaton

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Mr Norman Beaton, actor, was held yesterday in Southwark Cathedral. Canon Roy White, Vice-Provost, officiated.

Mr Jeremy Beaton and Mr William Beaton, sons, read the lessons. Mr Malcolm Craddock read from Mr Beaton's *Beaton but Unbowed.*

Mr Ian Wishart, Mr Chummy Bradford, Ms Paula Mercurius-Taylor, *Ms Corrine Skinner-Car*ter and Mr Ram John Holder paid tribute. A tribute by Mr Michael Grade, Chief Executive of Channel 4, was read by Mr Peter Ansorge. The Bishop of Croydon pronounced the blessing.

Mr Sol Raye, baritone, sang Nunc Dimittis; the London Community Gospel Choir, led by the Rev Bazil Meade sang *Something Inside So Strong* and *Constant Love.*

Celestial Episodes, a musical tribute specially composed by Mr *Ian Hall, in three pieces, Turbulence*, for organ and atumpan drum, narrated by Mr Clarence Thompson from the writings of President Senghor of Senegal: *Transition*, for flute and steel pan, narrated by Mr George Harris from the writings of Martin Luther King; and *Tranquillity*, for flute and steel pan, narrated by Mr Ellis Jones from the writings of Mahatma Gandhi.

The combined choirs of the Bloomsbury International Society and the Royal Academy of Dramatic Arts, and *the* Baroque Brass and Choristers with Asante and Sugumugu Drummers also took part in the service.

Forthcoming marriages

Dr S.J.S. Chattaway
and Dr A.M. Fowler

The engagement is announced between Jeremy, son of Mrs Gillian Wragg, of Wimborne Minster, *Dorset, and Anna,* daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael L. Fowler, of Hertford, Hertfordshire.

Mr P. de Wit
and Miss L.-A. Wapler

The engagement is announced between Pieter, son of Mr and Mrs Jan de Wit, of Adelaide, South *Australia, and Leslie-Ann,* daughter of Mr and Mrs Michael Wapler, of Heydon, Cambridgeshire.

Mr J.T.F. Fagan
and Mrs S.M.C. Verney

The engagement is announced between James, younger son of Captain and *Mrs Christopher* Fagan, of Deane, Hampshire, and Sarah, daughter of Mr and Mrs Richard Voelcker, of Stanton St Quintin, Wiltshire.

Mr J.P. Freeman
and Miss S.A. Williams

The engagement is announced between James, second son of Dr and Mrs Peter Freeman, of Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, and Sophie, elder daughter of Mr and *Mrs Graeme Williams, of* Camden Town, London.

Mr M.J.A. Fuller
and Miss J.A. Duncan

The engagement is announced between Matthew James Acland, elder son of Mr and Mrs John Fuller, of Claygate, Surrey, and Jane Alison, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs John Duncan, of Wirral, Cheshire.

Mr O.F.C. Higson
and Miss P.T. Weems

The engagement is announced between Oliver, son of the late Major John Higson, MC, and of Mrs Betty Higson, of Woolpit, Suffolk, and Prisca Terven, daughter of the late William Swanson Weems and of Mrs Prisca Crettier Weems, of Washington, DC.

Mr G. Turner
and Miss J.P. Price

The engagement is announced between Grange, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Justin Turner, of Edgware, Middlesex, and Jessica, eldest daughter of Dr and Mrs David Price, of Dowdeswell, Gloucestershire.

Marriages

Mr J.D. Blenkinsop
and Miss C.A.C. Bradshaw

The marriage took place on Saturday, February 25, at the Swedish Church, Harcourt Street, London, W1, of Mr David Blenkinsop, younger son of the late Mr and *Mrs J.E.P. Blenkinsop, to* Miss Anita Bradshaw, daughter of Mr and Mrs H.R.E. Bradshaw. The Rev Lennart Sjöström officiated.

The bride wore a gown of ivory lace and was attended by Miss Lesley Ann Blenkinsop, Aisling Goodbody, Astrid Bradshaw, Isobel Steane and John-Edward Blenkinsop. Mr Gordon Blenkinsop was best man.

A reception was held at the Swedish Church Hall.

Mr *J.L.J.* Butcher
and Miss H.C.G. Neville

The marriage took place on Saturday at the Church of All Saints, Waldron, East Sussex, of Mr Jonathan Butcher, son of Dr and Mrs P.J.A. Butcher, of Radcot Manor, Radcot, Oxfordshire, to *Miss Henrietta Neville, daughter* of Sir Roger and Lady Neville, of Possingworth Manor, Blackboys, East Sussex. The Rev R.W. Greenland officiated.

The bride, who was given in marriage by her father, was attended by Imogen Studd, Olivia Sanders and James Neville. Mr Christopher Ellis was best man.

A reception was held at the home of the bride.

Mr M.J. Rigby
and Miss L.M. Ryan

The marriage took place on Saturday, February 25, at Duns Parish Church, Berwickshire, between *Mr Michael John* Rigby and Miss Lynn Marie Ryan.

A reception was held at Duns Castle.

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No one who does not carry his cross and come with me can be a disciple of mine.
Luke 14 : 27 (REB)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

SMITH - The family of the late Sir John, would like to thank everyone for their kind expressions of sympathy which although too numerous to individually acknowledge were very much appreciated.

BIRTHS

BRENNAN - On February 23rd 1995, to Anna (née Davies) and Dave, a son, Samuel James, a cousin for Eleanor.

CHILDS - On February 22nd, to Emma (née Curtis) and Philip, a daughter. A sister for Rosie. Special thanks to the Alpha Team.

NICHOL - on 25th February 1995 to Sarah (née Woodcock) and John a handsome baby boy, Harry John; possibly a future Wimbledon Champion!

YOUNG On February 20th in Hong Kong, to Elaine (née Smith) and Mark a daughter Naomi Camilla Courtney.

GOLDEN ANNIVERSARIES

DICKSON:MITCHELL - On February 27th 1945, at British American Church, Naples. Gerry Lt. Cameronians attached 8th Recce to Morna, PMRAFNS. Now at Brighton, BN1 8EP.

DEATHS

BACON Michael Edward Anthony MA (Oxon), dearly loved second son of Tony and the late Jocelyn, brother of Richard and Tim, step-son of Robina, step-brother of Roderick, Hugo, Thomas, Claire and Kristie, tragically on 17th February 1995 aged 27 years. Private family Cremation. Service of commemoration and thanksgiving on Thursday 2nd March at 2pm at the church of St. James the Less, Pangbourne, Berks. Family flowers only please. Donations, if desired, in Mike's memory, to the Samaritans.

DEATHS

BOYD - Margaret. Widow of Captain Robert Boyd late R.N. peacefully on the 24th February 1995 at White Abbey Hospital, County Antrim. Service in St John's Church of Ireland Islandmagee on Tuesday February 28th at 10.00 am. Cremation thereafter to Roselawn Crematorium, Belfast for 12.00 noon.

CORYTON - On Thursday February 23rd at Royal Sussex County Hospital, Patrick Desmond Olpherts, Wing Commander R.A.F. Much loved and loving husband of Jessica, brother of Hazel and Heather. Funeral Service at St Margaret's, Rottingdean, on Friday March 3rd at 12.15pm. No flowers by request please. Donations, if desired, to R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, 67 Portland Place, London W1N 4AR.

EBBUTT - peacefully at RNH Haslar on 24th February 1995, Marjorie Joyce aged 79, widow of Hugh Jameson Ebbutt, beloved Mother of Rosalind and Giles, mother-in-law of Robert and Fiona and grandmother of Charlotte, Cicely and Joanna. Funeral at St. Mary's Alverstoke on Friday 3rd March at 2.30pm. Family flowers only, but donations if desired to The Rowans Hospice, Purbrook, Hampshire.

FORSTER On 11th February peacefully at Pine Lodge Hospice, Windsor, Alfred Harvey (Ken), aged 69, dearly loved husband of Sheila, brother of Hilda and Malcolm. Quiet cremation took place at Slough on February 20th. Someone so very special who will be sadly missed by family and friends.

HARMER, Sir Frederic Evelyn CMG (Freddie) on Friday 24th February, very peacefully in his home in Suffolk. Greatly loved husband of Daphne and also husband of the late Barbara Susan. Father of James, Louisa and Catharine and the late Frances. Grandfather and Great Grandfather. Private family funeral, no flowers please. Service of thanksgiving to be announced later.

DEATHS

LATIMER - On 11th February, after a short illness, Miriam Rosaline (née Duncan) widow of Reginald. Dearly loved friend and mother of Jean and Margaret and grandmother of Catherine, Michael and Nicholas. Family funeral has already taken place.

MUNRO OF FOULIS - Peacefully at Foulis Castle, Ross-shire on February 24th 1995, Patrick Gascoigne, aged 82 years, beloved husband of Timmy, much loved father of Charlotte, Hector, Harry and John, adored grandfather. Funeral Service at Foulis Castle on Wednesday March 1st at 2pm, thereafter to Kiltearn Burial Ground. Family flowers only. Donations if wished for "Help the Aged".

OWEN - On February 23rd, peacefully at home, Dr. John S. Owen O.B.E. aged 82. Beloved husband of Patricia, loving Father and Grandfather. The Funeral will take place at the Tunbridge Wells Crematorium on Wednesday March 1st at 12.30 pm. Family flowers only. Donations to Oxfam for Southern Sudan, may be sent c/o E.R. Hickmott & Son, 41 Grove Hill Road, Tunbridge Wells, TN1 1SD.

RAZZELL - On February 22nd 1995, *suddenly*. Marjory Emma. Formerly of the Foreign Office. Funeral Service at St Albans Church, Hindhead, on Friday March 3rd at 3 pm. Donations if wished Westminster Hospital Medical Research Centre c/o Thorne-Leggett, Petersfield Road, Whitehill, Bordon, Hampshire GU35 9AR.

SCRIVENER - On 22nd February Frank Bertram aged 94 years died peacefully in Canterbury. Father of Anthony Scrivener Q.C. and grandfather of Zoltan and Zsuzsa. Funeral Service at St Michael's and All Angels, Church Hill, Harbledown, Canterbury, Kent, 2.15 pm Friday 3rd March.

DEATHS

TWELLS - On February 22nd 1995, peacefully at his home in Hove, William Henry Twells M.A., O.B.E., dear father of Brian. Funeral Service at The Downs Crematorium, Bear Road, Brighton, on Thursday March 2nd at 12.30 pm. Flowers and enquiries to Regency Funeral Service, 29 College Place, Brighton, tel: (01273) 603013.

WALTER Francis Michael aged 81 on February 23 peacefully at home. Requiem at 11.30 am on Saturday 4th March at St. Mary's RC Church, Crown Lane, Chislehurst. Flowers to the Church.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

BORWICK - The Memorial Service for The Hon. George Borwick will be held at St Pauls Church, Covent Garden, London WC2, on Thursday 23rd March 1995 at 12 noon.

IN MEMORIAM – PRIVATE

HARRAP - On February 26th 1985. George Paull Munro. Much missed by the many who loved him.

MARTIN - Andrew died 27th February 1985. Loved and remembered today and every day. Anna.

PINFIELD - Kitty. We remember, especially today, a wonderful wife and mother. Peter, Christopher, Nicholas and Claire.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CAT BALOU, had a wonderful time last night, ring me for another date on 105138, love Mick.

BIRTHDAYS

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OBITUARIES

VICTOR MONTAGU

Victor Montagu, formerly Conservative MP for South Dorset, who succeeded his father as Earl of Sandwich in 1962 and a year later disclaimed his peerages, died on February 25 aged 88. He was born on May 22, 1906.

VICTOR MONTAGU, as Viscount Hinchingbrooke, son and heir of the 9th Earl of Sandwich, was a prominent backbencher in the Commons for 21 years. A man of strong convictions and independent views, he did not wear party harness very comfortably and never achieved ministerial office. At one time he resigned the Conservative whip and sat for more than a year as an Independent Conservative.

He was essentially a House of Commons man and when his father died in 1962 he did not relish the prospect of automatic transfer to the House of Lords as the 10th Earl of Sandwich. He never took his seat there and, when the Peerage Act of 1963 made this possible, he disclaimed his peerages for life and became known as Mr Victor Montagu. At the general election of 1964 he contested the marginal seat of Accrington as a Conservative but, with a Liberal intervening, he was unable to dislodge the sitting Labour MP.

After that, in his attempts to get back to the House of Commons, he sought adoption in many constituencies where vacancies arose but always unsuccessfully. In 1968 he had great hopes of being selected as prospective Conservative candidate for North Dorset where the sitting MP was retiring. He based his hopes on his past political association with the county — but the local association rejected him on the ground that he was over 50 and that they preferred a younger man. Montagu, who was then 62, remonstrated with the North Dorset Conservatives in a letter to them in which he wrote: "The political judgment which only comes from long service and maturity of years is needed now at Westminster more than at any time in this century." Thereafter, though he bravely disguised it, he was a disappointed man.

The truth, however, was that he had already irredeemably blotted his copybook. In the by-election caused by his own succession to his father's peerages in 1962 he had refused to support the official Conservative candidate, Angus Maude, and instead had ostentatiously backed a local county councillor, Sir Piers Debenham, who stood as an Anti-Common Market candidate. In the event, Sir Piers garnered more than 5,000 votes and the seat was won by Labour, if only by a majority of 704 (it returned to the Conservative fold at the succeeding general election of 1964).

Alexander Victor Edward Paulet Montagu was educated at Eton and Trinity College, Cambridge. Viscount Hinchingbrooke — as he then was — made his first contact with politics as private secretary to Stanley Baldwin, then Lord President of the Council, from 1932 to 1934. For a year after that he engaged in political work for the Conservative Party as treasurer of the Junior Imperial League.

In the early part of the Second World War he served in France with the Northamptonshire Regiment and afterwards on the General Staff, Home Forces. In 1941 he was returned to Parliament unopposed at a by-election as Conservative MP for South Dorset, the constituency which he represented continuously till 1962.

A tall, handsome young man, always immaculately turned out and usually sporting a double-breasted waistcoat, he soon made his mark in the Commons as a backbencher of an independent and courageous cast of mind. Along with Peter Thorneycroft and Thelma Cazalet-Keir, he was one of the founders, and became the first chairman in 1943, of the Tory Reform Committee, a "ginger-group" of young Conservative MPs who helped to nudge the party along to the "new Conservatism" (they were responsible for inflicting on the Coalition Government its sole defeat of the war over the issue of equal pay for women teachers in March 1944). During the period of his chairmanship Hinchingbrooke — or "Hinch" as he was invariably known in the House — set forth some of his own ideas and those of his colleagues in a briefly celebrated book, *Essays in Tory Reform*.

After the war he became chairman of the party's backbench committee on transport and specialised in the House on transport, finance, economics and foreign policy. Once the Conservatives were returned to office in 1951, he was often at odds with his front bench on various aspects of foreign policy and in 1952 he had to face some bitter controversy among Conservatives in his constituency about his views (he defeated a vote of no confidence, supported by his own executive committee, by more than two-to-one). He was also one of the dissident minority of mainly right-wing Conservative MPs, known as the "Suez Group", who quarrelled with their Government about the conditions accepted as the outcome of the Suez fiasco. In May 1957 he and seven others resigned the Conservative whip and became Independent Conservatives because of what they described as the Government's "capitulation to Nasser". A year later Hinchingbrooke, along with most of the others, applied to rejoin the Conservative Parliamentary Party and had the whip restored to him.

But further troubles lay ahead. When Harold Macmillan announced Britain's original application to join the Common Market in July 1961, Hinchingbrooke emerged as one of the leaders of the backbench rebellion against such a move. He became for a time the toast of the Beaverbrook newspapers and in 1962 became president of the Anti-Common Market League. It was bad luck that under the peerage law, as it then stood, he had to give up his seat in South Dorset that same year on succeeding to his father's peerages. Had he been allowed to stay in the Commons — he had been a consistent supporter of Tony Benn's efforts to be permitted to renounce *his* peerage — his political career would almost certainly have survived (President de Gaulle vetoed the first British application to join the European Common Market in January 1963). But, as it was, his participation in the South Dorset by-election left an indelible black mark against his name, not least in Conservative Central Office.

In what eventually became involuntary retirement — he was only 56 when he was forced to leave the Commons — Montagu devoted himself to adding a third garden of specimen shrubs and trees to the two that already existed at Mapperton House in Dorset (he had moved from the traditional family seat of Hinchingbrooke House, near Huntingdon, in the mid-1950s). He was a popular and respected figure in the county of Dorset and the only indication of a hankering after his former life surfaced with the publication of his book, *The Conservative Dilemma* (1970). Perhaps inevitably it lacked the impact of the earlier work, *Essays in Tory Reform*, published in 1944 when he was still regarded as a rising young MP.

Montagu was married, first, in 1934 to Rosemary, daughter of Major Ralph Harding Peto. This marriage was dissolved in 1958. His second marriage, in 1962, was to Lady Anne Holland-Martin, the widow of a fellow Member of Parliament, Christopher Holland-Martin, and a daughter of the 9th Duke of Devonshire. She was the younger sister of Lady Dorothy Macmillan and thus Montagu became for a short time a relative by marriage of the then Tory leader and Prime Minister. (This marriage was annulled in 1965.)

The two sons and four daughters of his first marriage survive him, and the heir to the disclaimed peerages is the elder son John Edward Hollister Montagu, born in 1943, who now succeeds as the 11th Earl of Sandwich.

PROFESSOR JOHN BURBIDGE

Professor John Burbidge, OBE, production engineer, died in Abbots Ripton, Bedfordshire, on January 10 aged 79. He was born in Canada on January 15, 1915.

JOHN BURBIDGE devoted his life to making sense of the workshops of industry and making them more efficient. Much of his thinking was against conventional wisdom and found little favour in this country. But the Japanese quickly grasped the implications of his expert research and analysis and — not for the first time — put into engineering practice ideas generated but not adopted in this country.

Burbidge was regarded as the "father" of group technology — the concept of bringing together all the resources necessary to complete a family of parts. This product-focused organisation is in contrast to the traditional process organisation, which groups together similar operations. It is the basis of cellular manufacturing which has revolutionised manufacturing throughout the world.

Ferranti in Edinburgh was a rare exception to the British scepticism towards Burbidge's ideas; the cellular manufacturing system designed for that firm in 1970 was based on his flow analysis principles.

Group technology, the focus of his research, is the simplification of the flow of material through a factory. The task of redesigning a factory comprising perhaps hundreds of machines and thousands of parts can be overwhelming. Burbidge's Production Flow Analysis (PFA) was a systematic method of achieving this redesign and identifying the necessary groupings of machines and parts. His ideas did find favour with industrial co-operatives, who saw them as a way of giving industrial workers job-satisfaction. He became a consultant with Mondragon, in the Basque country, the largest industrial co-operative in Europe, and began a long association with Novi Sad University, Yugoslavia, which continued up to his death.

Jack Burbidge came of engineering stock, his father representing R. A. Listers in Canada, where Jack was born, and in the United States. The years of the American Depression hit the family hard and forced Burbidge to come down prematurely from Cambridge, where he had begun his studies.

Refusing to be discouraged, in 1934 he was apprenticed to the Bristol Aeroplane Company, learning the craft of his profession the hard way. As the Second World War approached he moved to the Ministry of Supply and then joined up as an RAF engineering officer. He had some memorable tales to tell about the wartime manufacture of Spitfires.

After the war he returned to industry, serving variously as chief planner, sales manager, works director and managing director in such companies as the Bristol Aeroplane Company, R. A. Lister and David Brown. Such wide practical experience laid the foundation for his next career in 1962, when he became a production expert with the International Labour Organisation, serving for five years on assignments in Poland, Cyprus and Egypt, before becoming a professor, in 1967, at the International Training Centre run by the ILO in Turin. He remained in Turin until his retirement from the ILO in 1976.

Burbidge wrote 15 books and more than 150 papers on his speciality, many translated into dozens of languages.

Toward the end of his life his remarkable worth was recognised; he was elected a fellow of the Institute of Mechanical Engineers, an honorary fellow of the Institute of Production Engineers, a fellow of the Institute of Management and received an honorary DSc from Strathclyde University as well as from Novi Sad. He was sought after as a lecturer, giving addresses even in his last year in Israel, Ireland, Yugoslavia and Poland.

Burbidge's natural charm, grace and good manners caused him to be modest in his approach and particularly kind to those students interested in production. His thought-provoking work rarely hit the headlines and was not backed by marketing hype: which may explain some of the reluctance of British managers to use his ideas.

He remained impressed by the manner in which the Japanese used production techniques and contended that to compete with them the world had to copy them. Japan was the leading manufacturing nation, he said in 1990, "because they mastered the art of low stock manufacturing". The secret of their success was "simple material flow, based on continuous line flow, or technology, coupled with just-in-time production control".

After his retirement from the ILO Burbidge, who took great pride in his appointment as OBE, was a Visiting Professor at the School of Industrial and Manufacturing Science, Cranfield University.

John Burbidge married Dr Elizabeth Newton-Clare in 1948. She died in 1985 and he is survived by their four sons.

NORMAN HUNTER

Norman Hunter, writer and conjuror, died on February 23 aged 95. He was born on November 23, 1899.

IN 1992 Penguin Books elevated *The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm* to their series of Puffin Classics. Finding himself positioned alongside William Makepeace Thackeray and Lewis Carroll, the 93-year-old author, Norman Hunter, was delighted. "And they know I'm alive," he marvelled, of his publishers. "They keep paying me royalties."

Norman George Lorimer Hunter was born at the end of Victoria's reign, and remained very much a Victorian in manner — energetic, industrious and old-fashioned. He was educated at Beckenham County School, Kent, and from his early boyhood he was fascinated by all forms of stage magic. In the closing stages of the First World War he served with the London Irish Rifles, the name of which he found a source of constant amusement.

On his return to England he developed two apparently irreconcilable careers. His day job — in which he persevered for fifty years — was as an advertising copywriter. During the evenings, however, he performed at Maskelyne's Theatre of Magic and at the Little Theatre, both in London, as a conjuror. In 1923 he married Sylvia Mary Rangel, who doubled as his stage assistant and who appeared with him in a "Chinese" act, under the stage names of Ho Wat Fun and Me Too.

Hunter's first published book arose from these early experiences in prestidigitation. *Simple Conjuring for All . . . with suitable patter* (1923) was followed by several other books on the subject, the most recent of which was the *Puffin Book of Magic* (1970). Later in the 1920s he began to submit stories to the children's magazine *Merry-Go-Round*. From these he put together two collections for children: *The Bad Barons of Crashbania* (1932) and *The Incredible Adventures of Professor Branestawm* (1933).

The Professor overcomes the difficulty of cleaning the top bedroom windows

The latter, a comedy about an absent-minded professor, was an instant success. An element of this must be attributed to W. Heath Robinson's splendid drawings — one of that artist's rare forays into children's book illustration — and to the BBC's early serialisation of the book on *Children's Hour*. But there was also something irresistibly fresh about Hunter's story and an enduring appeal to the central character, as witnessed by the regularity with which Hunter returned to him in later books.

During and immediately after the Second World War Hunter was the chief copywriter for S. H. Benson, an advertising agency which handled the Guinness account. In 1949 he moved to South Africa and for the next two decades worked in similar posts in Johannesburg.

He returned to England in 1970 and spent much of his retirement at Staines where, during the war, he had lived on a houseboat. He continued to deluge his publishers with a flow of light-hearted, nonsensical children's books, many of them continuing Professor Branestawm's far-fetched adventures, all characterised by his vivacious — at times over-vivacious — storytelling style. Some critics considered his stories were too farcical even by children's standards but, while he never produced anything with quite the same originality as the first *Branestawm*, Hunter's books continued to sell in Puffin.

In retirement Hunter built a model of the Theatre Royal, Drury Lane, and, with the use of tape recordings and other devices, staged miniature performances of operas ranging from *Iolanthe* to *Siegfried*, chiefly for himself though also for anyone who might care to watch. Scenery and staging were all undertaken by him in conditions which sometimes resembled those of Professor Branestawm's laboratory, but which could result in impressive effects.

Norman Hunter had three children, and, after his wife's death, his daughter Mary cared for him during his spirited old age.

JACK CLAYTON

Clayton directing Simone Signoret in *Room at the Top*

Jack Clayton, film director, died in Slough, Berkshire, on February 25 aged 73. He was born on March 1, 1921.

JACK CLAYTON was the director of *Room At The Top* (1958), widely considered to be a turning point in British film — the first to treat sex frankly, to regard working-class values unsentimentally and to show the industrial North as it really was. It paved the way for a whole series of films in the late 1950s which came under the banner of "kitchen sink" realism, films such as *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* (1960) and *This Sporting Life* (1963).

Although none of Clayton's subsequent films was to have anything like the same impact as *Room At The Top*, all were distinguished by careful craftsmanship, technical polish and strong pictorial quality.

Clayton followed in the tradition of David Lean and Carol Reed, all of them consummate craftsmen but reluctant artists, and more interested in telling a story than in using film to make a personal statement. If Clayton could be said to have recurring themes, these were the consideration of melancholy, frustration or obsession, emotions which surface just as evidently behind the lavish sets of *The Great Gatsby* (1974) as in the gritty, black-and-white realism of *Room At the Top*.

For all his talent, Clayton's career was notable for its small output. Even at his most prolific he averaged only about one film every three years, and the gaps were often much longer. This was due partly to the usual film maker's difficulty in setting up projects but also to a refusal to accept commercial chores just to keep his hand in. He could not embark on a film without feeling wholeheartedly committed to it.

He was born in Brighton and ran away from school at the age of 15 to launch his film career. He started humbly as a third assistant director — in essence little more than a gofer — for Alexander Korda. During the 1930s he worked steadily through the cutting room and camera department, working with directors like Victor Seastrom and Michael Powell.

He joined the RAF in 1940 as a flight mechanic but was soon transferred to the RAF Film Unit, where he worked on newsreels and documentaries. After the war he was assistant director on Anthony Asquith's *While the Sun Shines* (1946) and then turned to producing, in which capacity he was associated with such films as Korda's *An Ideal Husband* (1947), *The Queen of Spades* (1948), *Moulin Rouge* (1952) and *I Am a Camera* (1955).

He made his directorial debut the same year with *The Bespoke Overcoat*, a "short" based on a story by Gogol. Made for only £5,000, it won awards at the Edinburgh and Venice Film Festivals, as well as an Oscar for best short film.

Three years later *Room At The Top* eclipsed anything Clayton had so far achieved. Adapted from John Braine's bestseller, it starred Laurence Harvey as the social-climbing young northerner who sacrifices love, in the form of Simone Signoret, for ambition, when he impregnates the local industrialist's daughter.

It was the first quality film to carry the new X certificate, and its sexual openness — the love scenes between Harvey and Heather Sears were much admired — and frank observation of the class system drew a very favourable reaction from audiences and critics. It was certainly a much more satisfactory film than *Lucky Jim*, which a year earlier had managed to reduce the Amis novel to a bawdy shadow of the original.

Despite his success, Clayton refused to be pigeon-holed as one of the "angry young men" directors. He turned down both *Saturday Night and Sunday Morning* and *The L-Shaped Room* to take a complete change of direction with a ghost story, *The Innocents* (1961), adapted from Henry James's *Turn of The Screw*. In this, Deborah Kerr gave a brilliant performance as the governess who battles to protect her charges from the spirits of two evil former servants. Clayton gave it the full, Gothic, Hammer House of Horror treatment, with long dark corridors, candles blowing out and curtains flapping mysteriously.

He remained with black-and-white for his next film, *The Pumpkin Eater* (1964), which focused on the disintegration of a middle-class marriage. Some critics found the emotional pitch too unremittingly intense but overall it was another polished piece of film-making with excellent performances from Anne Bancroft and James Mason.

The film that followed, *Our Mother's House* (1967), was, however, an unconvincing melodrama about a group of children in Croydon who try to conceal the death of their mother (they have buried her in the garden).

It marked a low-point in Clayton's career which continued throughout the late 1960s, as one abortive project followed another. In fact it was seven years before he returned to the screen with the lavish and much-hyped *The Great Gatsby* (1974), scripted by Francis Ford Coppola, a film which even though visually striking, the critics decided was dramatically dull. Tellingly, it won an Oscar for costume design.

Not until 1983 did Clayton return to form with the horror-fantasy *Something Wicked This Way Comes*, and four years later with the heart-rendingly bleak *The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne* (1987), about a piano teacher in Dublin, with an excellent central performance from Maggie Smith.

He was married three times. His first wife was Christine Norden, a British film actress; his second was Kathleen Kath; and his third was Haya Harareet, who survives him. There were no children.

University news

Queen's University, Belfast
Recent grants include:
School of Agriculture and Food Science
Veterinary Science
Dr J. McCaughey (joint project), £79,557, the European Commission. Monitoring and improvement of the reliability of inspection procedures applied to residues of veterinary drugs.
School of Biology and Biochemistry
Biology
Dr G. Savidge (in collaboration with Dr K. Jones, Dunstaffnage Marine Laboratory (DML)), £80,042 over three years, Natural Environment Research Council. Nutrient fluxes and phytoplankton dynamics at the Hebridean shelf edge.
School of Clinical Medicine
Ophthalmology
Dr U. Chakravarthy, £325,321 over five years, the Wellcome Trust. Investigation of the abnormalities of endothelium derived vasoactive agents in the pathogenesis of diabetic microvascular disease.
Professor D.B. Archer, £89,539 over three years, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. Stereological analysis of the three dimensional structure of the normal and diabetic retinal microvasculature including the effects of Aldose reductase inhibition, aminoguanidine and antioxidant treatment.
Professor D.B. Archer, £31,876, the Guide Dogs for the Blind Association. An investigation of the mechanisms of increased retinal vascular endothelial cell endocytosis in diabetes and its modulation with antioxidants and aminoguanidine.
School of Electrical Engineering and Computer Science
Electrical & Electronic Engineering
Dr G.I. Dodds, Professor G.W. Irwin, £116,637 over three years, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. Planning and control for multi-arm, co-operative robotic applications.
Professor J.A.C. Stewart, Dr A.D. Patterson, £111,278 over two years, EPSRC. Large-signal characterisation and design of millimetre-wave integrated circuits.
School of Geosciences
Geography
Dr J. Orford (in collaboration with Dr A. White, University College of Wales at Aberystwyth and Dr P. Wilson, University of Ulster), £121,936, Natural Environment Research Council. Recent environmental history of coastal dune fields in North Norfolk and North-East Northumberland in relation to land-sea interactions.
School of Mathematics and Physics
Applied Mathematics & Theoretical Physics
Professors D.S.F. Crothers, P.G. Burke, A. Hibbert, K.T.A. Taylor, A.E. Kingston, B.L. Moiseiwitsch, Drs K.L. Bell, R.A. Berrington, P.H. Norrington, R.H.G. Reid, M.R.H. Rudge, S. Swain, D.G. Thompson, H.R.J. Walters, £792,843 over four years, Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council. A rolling programme of research in theoretical atomic molecular and optical physics at QUB, 1994-98.
Pure and Applied Physics and Applied Mathematics and Theoretical Physics
Professor B. Bates (P&AP), Dr K.L. Bell (AM&TP), Professor P.G. Burke (AM&TP), Dr P.L. Dufton (P&AP), Professor A. Hibbert (AM&TP), Professor F.P. Keenan (P&AP), Professor A.E. Kingston (AM&TP), £660,511 over four years, Particle Physics and Astronomy Research Council. A programme of astrophysics research at QUB 1994-98 — extension of rolling grant.
School of Mechanical and Process Engineering
Mechanical and Manufacturing Engineering
Dr S. Thompson, £169,775 over three years, Department of Economic Development (Industrial Research and Technology Unit, Science and Technology Programme). Improved monitoring and control of boiler fouling.
School of Social Sciences
Social Studies
Professor S. Yearley, £110,620 over 18 months, Economic and Social Research Council. Regulatory Science: Industry, academic research and the European control of chemical toxicity.

ON THIS DAY

February 27, 1945

Parrots and monkeys sound harmless enough pets for British soldiers serving in the Far East to keep, but the same cannot be said for the officer's bear cub that was thrown out of the Grand Hotel Calcutta for eating the bed.

A DIVERSITY OF PETS WITH THE 14TH ARMY TALE OF TURKEY EGGS

From Our Special Correspondent in Burma

Most soldiers seem to collect animals when on active service. It is one of the ways in which their paternal instincts find expression. But there can never have been such a diversity of livestock as is to be found today in the Fourteenth Army.

An officer of the Burma Intelligence Corps down in the Arakan kept a pet bear cub, which achieved the distinction of being thrown out of the Grand Hotel in Calcutta for eating the end of a bed. An officer with the 5th Indian Division had a perfectly tame sheep which waited quietly while he worked and slept in his tent at night. Honorary Staff Captain Q has an enchanting Siamese cat at his headquarters, moping disconsolately at the moment because his master is away. A sergeant herpetologist in the transport section keeps a 10ft python, to which he is singularly devoted.

Pet dogs there are in thousands. No Burmese puppy, no pi-dog, however mangy, will starve as long as the British Army is in Burma. Indian Army officers have brought dachshunds, bull terriers and spaniels with them. Lieutenant-General Sun Li-jen, commanding the Chinese First Army, has an Alsatian called Mogaung, and no fewer than six puppies, named Myitkyina, Bhamo, Namkam, and so on, after various scenes of Chinese military prowess. Lieutenant-General Sir Montague Stopford, commanding the XXXIII Indian Corps, contents himself with a flock of ducks.

Small monkeys are to be seen riding with the drivers of trucks, nattering angrily at any who have the impertinence to overtake them. Parrots and parakeets, brilliantly coloured but poor linguists, are to be found in more than one mess. Mules arouse great devotion in the breasts of their Indian muleteers, who cry like children when anything happens to their charges.

Nearly every unit has a little poultry farm. If you want to buy a live hen from a Burmese villager, the current price is an old shirt, three tins of bully beef or 50 cigarettes. The chief characteristic of these fowls is that the cocks crow intermittently all night and the hens are nearly all abstainers from the egg habit.

The most remarkable incident connected with natural history recently concerns turkeys. A young major, commanding a unit serving with the Fourteenth Army, when in Delhi last autumn bought two fine turkeys, a gobbler and a hen, for his unit's Christmas dinner. These birds are almost as rare in India as in war-time England. He took them down to the Arakan, where his unit was stationed. The hen laid her first egg on a ferry crossing the Brahamaputra and the major ate it for breakfast. At Christmas, the turkeys paid the traditional penalties of their kind, but not before the hen had laid six eggs. These were put under a broody Rhode Island Red. After a long journey over some of the worst roads in Asia, the hen, in a coop on the back of a truck, hatched out three small turkeys.

THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Baring Brothers rescue talks held

■ Emergency talks to find £600 million to prevent the collapse of Baring Brothers, the oldest bank in the City, were being held last night against a deadline that could trigger an international banking crisis.

Eddie George, the Governor of the Bank of England, headed a task force in an attempt to organise funding before financial markets opened in the Far East .... Pages 1, 3

Boxer has 'good chance' of surviving

■ Gerald McClellan, the boxer who suffered a massive brain injury in his world title bout with Nigel Benn, has a "good chance" of surviving, according to the neurosurgeon who operated on him. The surgeon, John Sutcliffe gave a warning, however, that the next 48 hours would be crucial for the 27-year-old American........ Pages 1, 4

European battle

John Major led an eleventh-hour attempt by the Conservative high command to avoid a defeat in Wednesday's Commons vote over Europe .... Pages 1, 2

On the move

An iceberg the size of Oxfordshire has broken away from Antarctica as rising temperatures trigger a disintegration of the continent's ice sheets .... Page 1

Found in Malaysia

Peter Kerry, who ran away to Malaysia using his father's passport and credit card, was found safe and well........ Page 1

Mayhew's message

Sir Patrick Mayhew stepped up pressure on the IRA to surrender its weapons when he said no ministers would meet Sinn Fein until "substantial progress" was made on the arms issue .... Page 2

Gordievsky's escape

Oleg Gordievsky, the former senior KGB officer who defected to Britain in 1985, has disclosed for the first time how he fled from Moscow when his spymasters suspected him of being an MI6 double agent .... Page 4

Attenborough's lead

Sir David Attenborough's natural history programme *The Private Life of Plants* will form the centrepiece of the BBC's biggest independent international sales drive........ Page 6

Parking eased

Council parking attendants are persuading drivers to obey restrictions or leave their cars at home, local authorities in London have found, after six months of a trial scheme .... Page 7

Blair's fight

Tony Blair's attempt to ditch Clause Four will be put to its first real test this week. The first stage of the consultation exercise ends on Friday........ Page 9

Clinton's clampdown

President Clinton has ordered a complete review of government programmes that extend preferential treatment to minorities and women........ Page 10

Piracy policy

China will create task forces to combat intellectual property pirates and launch raids to destroy fake goods under a pact with the United States .... Page 11

Somali shift

The alliance behind General Muhammad Farrah Aidid, the Somalian warlord whose militia forced a reversal of American foreign policy in 1993, looked set to crumble .... Page 12

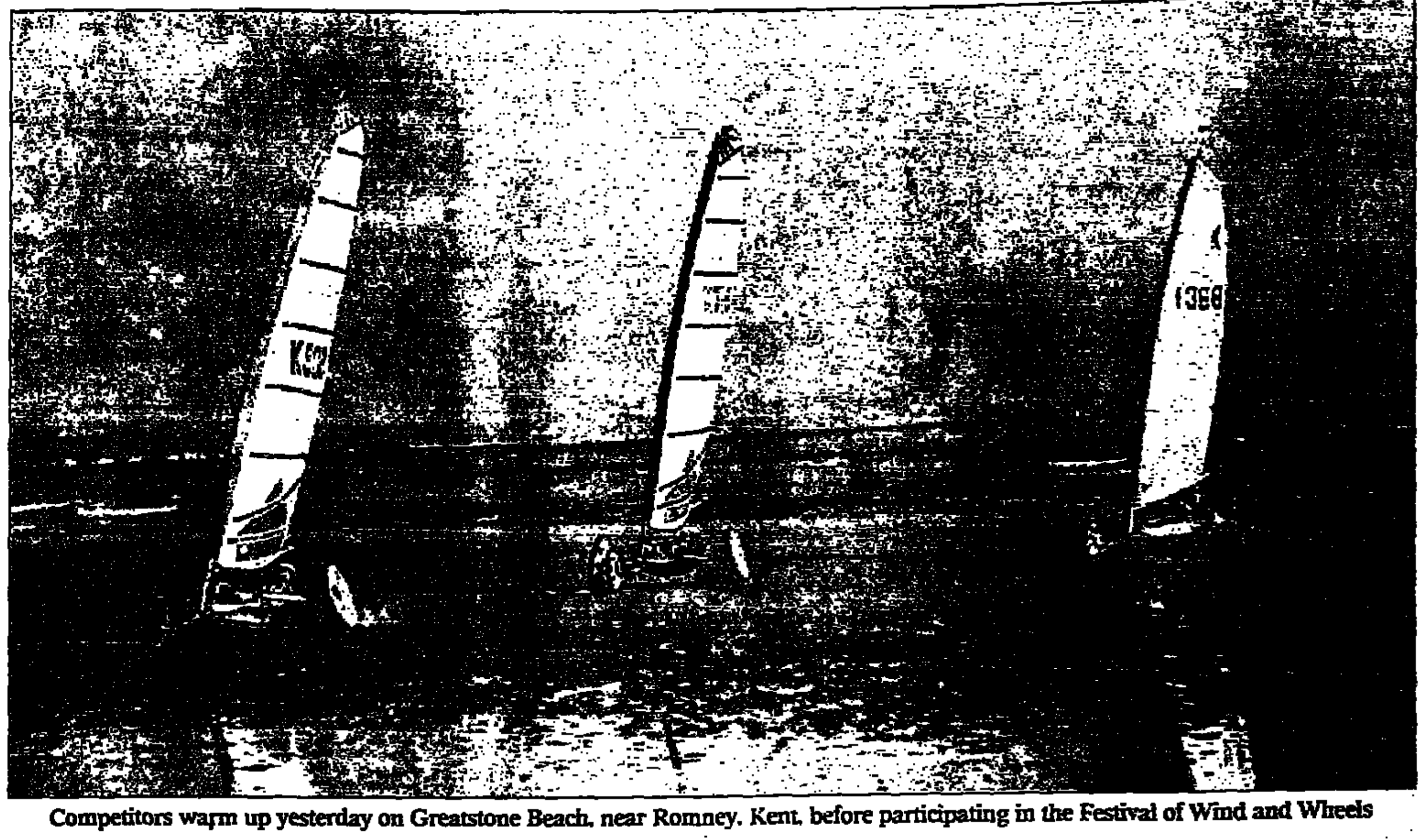
Cyberspace fears

The Group of Seven ended its first conference on the information society amid heightened concern that the cyberspace age will widen the chasm between rich and poor........ Page 13

Hong Kong man buys seat in Scotland

■ A Scottish castle and title has been bought by a Hong Kong solicitor. Ma Ching Nam has paid about £330,000 for the 17th-century Mounie Castle near Oldmeldrum, Grampian, and the right to call himself Baron Ma of Mounie. He will also be able to apply to the Lord Lyon, King of Arms, for the grant of armorial bearings........ Page 4

TONY WHITE



Competitors warm up yesterday on Greatstone Beach, near Romney, Kent, before participating in the Festival of Wind and Wheels

BUSINESS

A new report from the Bank for International Settlements urges central banks to gather more information on derivatives trading to prevent bank collapses........ Page 44

White-collar electricity workers are set to demand the same large pay rises as the power chief received last year .... Page 44

Britain will be one of only four European countries to meet Maastricht's economic criteria by 1997, according to the London Business School .... Page 41

The CBI is urging John Major to make a clear statement on Europe after giving a warning that Britain's ability to attract investment could be damaged by political rows over the issue .... Page 41

ARTS

Musical magic: Rodney Milnes is in operatic heaven as English National Opera revives David Pountney's production of *Cunning Little Vixen* .... Page 14

What if: With Noel Coward's play, *Peace in Our Time*, about to go on tour, Ellen Cranitch looks at how art has dealt with the hypothesis of a German victory in the Second World War .... Page 15

Miller transfer: Arthur Miller's National Theatre hit, *Broken Glass*, has moved to the West End, bringing some of the finest performances in London .... Page 15

Punk revisited: Belinda Carlisle brings the Go-Go's back together again, but was it worth the trouble?........ Page 14

FEATURES

Top billing: "I didn't remember the amount of physical discipline you need in the theatre." Art Malik tells Julia Llewellyn Smith about his return to the stage .... Page 17

Words on wheels: Edward Marriott on author Chris Paling who writes on trains........ Page 17

MIND AND MATTER

Keep cool: Stories about plummeting Highlands temperatures can be misleading. William Burroughs on wind-chill .... Page 16

EDUCATION

Culture clash: The Far East is an alluring market for boarding school head teachers seeking relief from falling rolls........ Page 36

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ LAW IN ACTION
This man is about to take over almost every court in the land.
Frances Gibb meets Michael Heubner

■ 20P AUDIOBOOKS
How to buy a talking book for the price of *The Times*

Football: Duncan Ferguson won the battle of the multimillion pound strikers as he guided Everton to victory over Manchester United........ Page 27

Golf: Robert Karlsson won the Mediterranean Open in Valencia with a three-stroke margin. He was one of six Swedish players to finish in the top eight........ Page 24

Cricket: David Hemp hit 190 and Nick Knight 150 as the England A team end their successful tour of India and Bangladesh with a draw........ Page 25

Rugby union: Leicester, one of the favourites for the Pilkington Cup, are taken to the wire in the quarter-finals by Sale........ Page 31

Bowls: Andy Thomson retained his world indoor singles championship with a decisive win over Richard Corsie at the Preston Guild Hall........ Page 25

Athletics: The bearded Linford Christie was beaten by a whisker as Darren Braithwaite sprinted to first place in the race at Birmingham........ Page 30

Rugby league: Wigan needed little more than a stroll in the sunshine to beat Batley, of the second division, 70-4 in the Silk Cut Challenge Cup .... Page 25

Racing: Fortune-and-Fame is on course for the Champion Hurdle after making good progress from a training setback .... Page 34

Preview: Three flat-sharers are obsessed with sexual conquest in a comedy co-written by Andrew (*Middlemarch*) Davies. *Game On* (BBC2, 9.30pm). Review: Lynne Truss comes to terms with the confessions Andrew Neil extracts from Olivia Newton-John .... Page 43

Happy families

Discussion of families has been so clouded by political correctness on one side and embarrassment on the other that "family policy" has almost ceased to exist .... Page 19

Baring losses

The Bank of England would do the City no service by imposing rules which deprive its marketmakers of the freedom to take calculated risks .... Page 19

Vegetable loves

Sir David has found suspense in stamens and wonders deep inside the wallflower........ Page 19

WILLIAM REES-MOGG: A friend recently visited a Swiss bank, and was shown the room in which derivatives were traded. He was struck by the youthfulness of the dealers, and asked the age of the head. He was 28........ Page 18

MATTHEW PARRIS: I am perhaps the first man ever to be saved from [illegible] by halitosis .... Page 18

Victor Montagu, former Conservative MP for South Dorset; Jack Clayton, film director; Professor John Burbidge, production engineer; Norman Hunter, children's writer........ Page 21

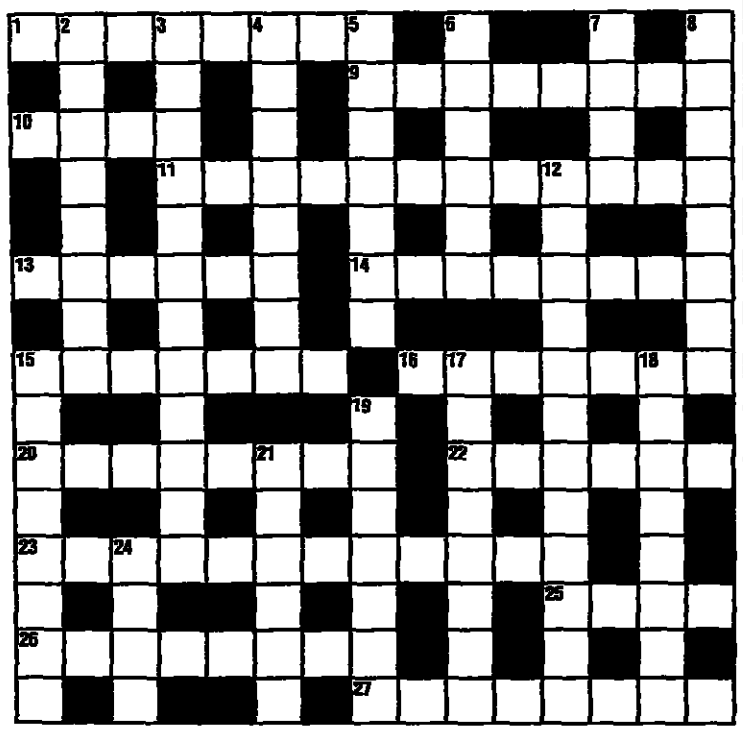
Pensions for divorcees........ Page 19

Although Mr Major has avoided the mistake of the Anglo-Irish Agreement ... he has given them just as little as they got then
— *The Sunday Telegraph*

The vermin who feed off the bogus asylum racket should be thrown into the gutter where they belong
— *Sunday Express*

5, 8, 10, 18, 31, 33. *Bonus:* 28.

THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 19,789



ACROSS

1 Gardener and saint in novel association (4,4).
9 "Girl tied up" report causes fear (8).
10 Prisons not opened for years (4).
11 Notes about entering the aircraft industry in the short term (12).
13 The first composer to make a journey (6).
14 Cheerfulness needed to stop Mimi's disorder (8).
15 No myths disseminated by Isaac Watts for instance (7).
16 Duplicity of selling papers for a living (7).
20 The story of a fight (8).
22 Hefty staff strike (6).
23 Being audacious, break in using a crowbar (12).
25 A road not to be in (4).
26 Modest flutter of likely lad losing pound (8).
27 Second one to make his mark is quick finisher (8).

DOWN

2 Policeman to hound Yates hero (8).
3 Lead a quiet life say by accident (12).
4 Lobs as the Cockney tells the viewers (8).
5 Jones the butterfly? (7).
6 Nicholas Nye needs first aid (6).
7 I tolerate the language (4).
8 Like Houdini he may act for others (8).
12 Attorney General maintained order frequently (4,3,5).
15 Beautiful like Andromeda? (8).
17 Official offender (8).
18 Exaggerate bowling speed (8).
19 Moves tried out on board (7).
21 The effervescence of a restorative spritzer! (6).
24 Ordered quite a lot (4).

Times Two Crossword, page 44

KNOCKANDO

The solution of Saturday's Prize Puzzle No 19,788 will appear next Saturday. The five winners will receive a bottle of Knockando, a superb Speyside Single Malt Scotch whisky and a *fine leather credit card* wallet.

ص ١٥ من الأهرام

TIMES WEATHERCALL

For the latest region by region forecast, 24 hours a day, dial 0891 500 followed by the appropriate code.

Greater London	701
Kent,Surrey,Sussex	702
Dorset,Hants & IOW	703
Devon & Cornwall	704
Wilts,Gloucs,Avon,Soms	705
Berks,Bucks,Oxon	706
Beds,Herts & Essex	707
Norfolk,Suffolk,Cambs	708
West Mid & Sth Glam & Gwent	709
Shrops,Herefds & Worcs	710
Central Midlands	711
East Midlands	712
Lincs & Humberside	713
Dyfed & Powys	714
Gwynedd & Clwyd	715
N W England	716
W & S Yorks & Dales	717
N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
E Central Scotland	723
Grampian & E Highlands	724
N W Scotland	725
Caithness,Orkney & Shetland	726
N Ireland	727

Weathercall is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

For the latest AA traffic/roadworks information, 24 hours a day, dial 0336 401 followed by the appropriate code.

London & SE traffic, roadworks	
Area within M25	731
Essex/Herts/Beds/Bucks/Berks/Oxon	732
Kent/Surrey/Sussex/Hants	734
M25 London Orbital only	736
National traffic and roadworks	
National motorways	737
West Country	738
Wales	739
Midlands	740
East Anglia	741
North-west England	742
North-east England	743
Scotland	744
Northern Ireland	745

AA Roadwatch is charged at 39p per minute (cheap rate) and 49p per minute at all other times.

Saturday: Highest day temp: Penzance 14C (57F); lowest day max: Tulloch Bridge, Highland 2C (36F); highest rainfall: Jersey 0.41in; highest sunshine: Aberdeen 7.4hr.

LONDON TO INNSBRUCK from £99 return.

LONDON TO GLASGOW from £75 return.

LONDON TO AMSTERDAM from £69 return.

Phone Air UK on 0345 666777 or contact your travel agent. All major credit cards accepted. Period of applicability varies. Restrictions apply. Subject to Airport Tax. AirUK

FORECAST

☐ **General:** mild with patchy rain. Over England and Wales, rain or drizzle in the west will spread across all parts during the day. There will be little rain in the Southeast and central and eastern areas may brighten up in the afternoon.

It will become mild, though winds will be gusty. Scotland and Northern Ireland will start wet and western areas will remain damp and misty. The east will become brighter in the afternoon and wintry showers will develop in the north. It will be mild generally, but there will be gales in many places.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia:** bright start, patchy rain later. Wind south-west, moderate or fresh. Max 11C (48-52F).

☐ **Central S, SW England, Channel Isles:** occasional rain or drizzle. Hill fog. Wind south-west mainly fresh. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **E, W Midlands, Central N, NE, E England:** some rain in morning, then brighter and mainly dry. Wind south-west, fresh and blustery. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **Wales, NW England, Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Argyll, N Ireland:** a dull start with rain or drizzle and hill fog. Wind south-west, fresh or strong, perhaps gale. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, Moray Firth:** rain at first, brighter and mainly dry later. Wind south-west, fresh and blustery. Max 11C (52F).

☐ **NE, NW Scotland, Orkney, Shetland:** rain at times, wintry showers later. Wind south-west, strong or gale. Max 10C (50F).

☐ **Outlook:** there will be widespread rain in the south. It will be colder with wintry showers in the north.

AROUND BRITAIN

24 hrs to 5 pm: b=bright; c=cloud; d=drizzle; ds=dust storm; du=dull; f=fair; fg=fog; g=gale; h=hail; r=rain; sh=shower; sl=sleet; sn=snow; s=sun; t=thunder

	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F
Tynemouth	4.9	0.04	6	43b
Scarboro'	3.1	0.04	5	41b
Cleethorpes	X			
Skegness	X			
Hunstanton	3.6	-	7	45b
Cromer	4.3	0.01	6	43b
Lowestoft	4.1	0.43	8	46s
Clacton	4.2	0.17	7	45s
Southend	6.1	0.29	8	46b
Margate	4.0	0.16	8	46sh
Herne Bay	3.8	0.07	8	46h
Folkestone	5.0	0.02	9	48b
Hastings	5.9	0.02	9	48b
Eastbourne	5.1	0.01	9	48b
Hove	2.5	-	9	48b
Littlehmptn	4.6	0.03	9	48sh
Bognor R	5.0	0.01	9	48sh
Hayling I	4.2	0.04	9	48h
Southsea	X			
Ryde	X			
Sandown	6.0	0.12	9	48h
Shanklin	6.9	0.07	9	48s
Ventnor	7.2	-	9	48s
Bournem'th	6.4	-	9	48b
Poole	5.6	-	10	50b
Swanage	6.0	0.02	9	48b
Weymouth	6.6	0.16	10	50b
Exmouth	7.5	0.31	9	48s
Teignmouth	9.5	0.51	10	50s
Torquay	7.8	0.61	10	50s
Salcombe	X			
Falmouth	X	0.16	9	48s
Penzance	7.2	0.10	11	52h
Scilly Isles	6.9	0.02	10	50h
Jersey	5.2	0.19	10	50sh
Guernsey	6.2	0.12	11	52b
Newquay	5.5	0.13	8	46b
Saunton Snd	6.3	-	9	48b

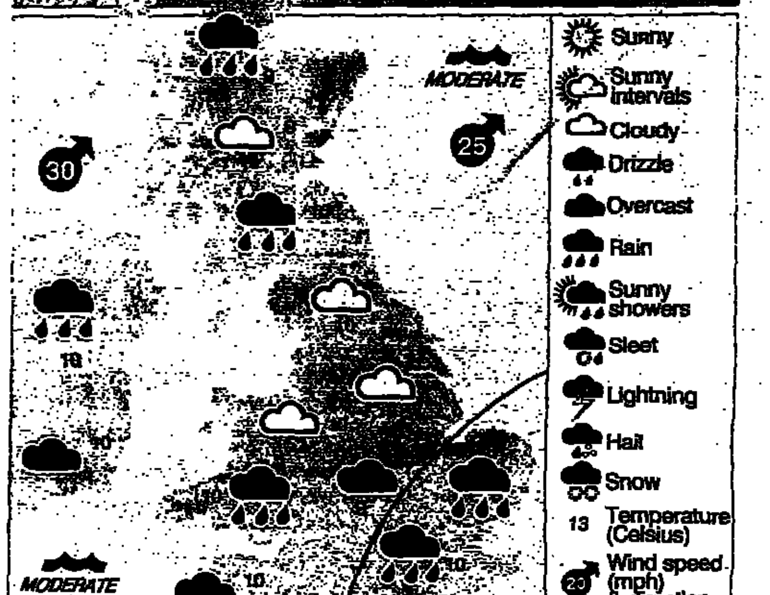
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	Max F
Ilfracombe	X			
Minehead	6.6	-	9	48b
West-s-mare	X			
Liverpool	X	0.15	6	43h
Southport	4.8	0.10	7	45sh
Morecambe	9.6	0.02	8	46s
Isle of Man	7.2	-	7	45s
Aspatria	6.7	0.02	7	45b
Birmingham	3.7	0.23	8	46th
Bristol	7.2	0.02	9	48s
Buxton	6.1	0.21	4	39b
Doncaster	7.3	0.02	8	46s
Leeds	7.7	-	9	48s
London	5.0	0.03	9	48h
Manchester	4.7	0.24	8	46h
Newcastle	7.1	0.04	7	45s
Norwich	3.9	0.20	7	45r
Nottingham	7.1	0.09	7	45s
Oxford	4.8	0.02	8	46sh
Plymouth	7.2	0.25	9	48s
Shrewsbury	4.8	0.31	7	45sh
Anglesey	6.9	0.15	8	46b
Cardiff	6.8	0.01	9	48h
Colwyn Bay	4.5	0.28	8	46b
Fishguard	4.3	0.11	7	45sh
Prestatyn	X	0.29	7	45b
Tenby	8.7	-	9	48s
Aberdeen	6.7	-	5	41sl
Aviemore	4.4	0.02	4	39b
Edinburgh	6.6	0.01	7	45s
Eskdalemuir	6.9	-	6	43s
Glasgow	7.8	0.05	7	45s
Kinloss	4.0	0.04	5	41sn
Lerwick	8.4	-	3	37s
Leuchars	5.9	-	6	43s
Stornoway	6.5	0.03	5	41s
Tiree	7.2	0.20	6	43sh
Belfast	7.0	0.10	7	45h

ABROAD

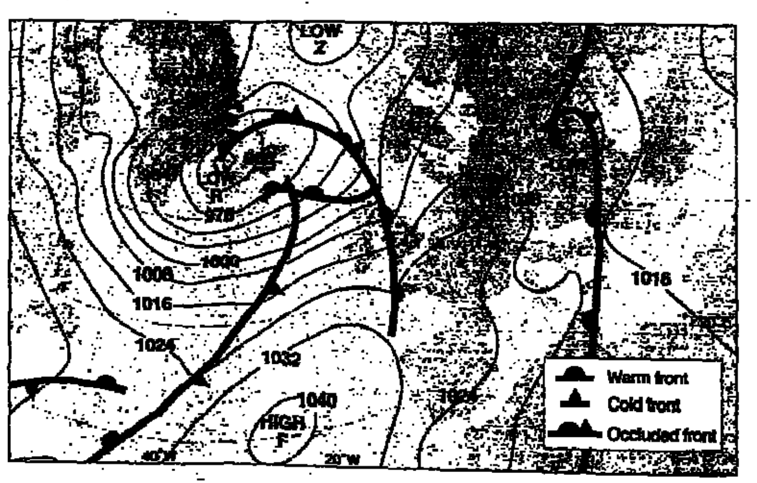
Ajaccio	14	57	c	C'phagn	3	37	c
Akrotiri	16	61	s	Corfu	17	63	c
Alex'dria	23	73	s	Dublin	5	41	s
Algiers	20	68	f	Dubrovnik	13	55	c
Amst'dm	6	43	f	Faro	15	59	f
Athens	19	66	s	Florence	16	61	f
Bahrain	20	68	s	Frankfurt	6	43	f
Bangkok	32	90	s	Funchal	16	61	c
Barbados	26	79	f	Geneva	6	43	f
Barcelona	14	57	f	Gibraltar	14	57	s
Beirut	17	63	f	Helsinki	0	32	c
Belgrade	15	59	s	Hong K	13	55	f
Berlin	1	34	d	Innsbrck	2	36	c
Bermuda	21	70	r	Istanbul	13	55	f
Biarritz	9	48	c	Jeddah	28	82	s
Borde'x	10	50	c	Jo'burg	-	--	
Brussels	5	41	c	Karachi	26	79	f
Budapst	11	52	f	L Palmas	19	66	c
B Aires	27	81	c	Le Touquet	6	43	f
Cairo	22	72	s	Lisbon	8	46	r
Cape Tn	-	--		Locarno	6	43	c
Chicago	6	43	c	L Angels	15	59	c
Ch'church	21	70	-	Luxembg	4	39	f
Cologne	7	45	f	Luxor	25	77	s

Madrid	8	46	f	Rome	15	59	c
Majorca	15	59	s	Salzburg	5	41	c
Malaga	16	61	f	S Frisco	12	54	c
Malta	19	66	s	Santiago	23	73	s
Melb'rne	23	73	f	S Paulo	13	55	c
Miami	26	79	c	Seoul	4	39	f
Milan	5	41	r	Sing'por	30	86	f
Montreal	-14	7	s	Stkholm	1	34	s
Moscow	2	36	c	Strasb'rg	7	45	c
Munich	4	39	c	Sydney	27	81	s
Nairobi	28	82	s	Tangier	13	55	c
Naples	15	59	f	Tel Aviv	16	61	c
N Delhi	24	75	s	Tenerife	18	64	d
N York	2	36	s	Tokyo	6	43	c
Nice	14	57	f	Toronto	-9	16	c
Oslo	-1	30	s	Tunis	24	75	s
Paris	7	45	f	Valencia	15	59	f
Peking	8	46	s	Vanc'ver	5	41	c
Perth	23	73	f	Venice	7	45	r
Prague	5	41	f	Vienna	9	48	f
Reykjavik	-2	28	f	Warsaw	3	37	c
Rhodes	14	57	f	Wash'ton	7	45	f
Rio de J	29	84	f	Wel'ngton	19	66	s
Riyadh	25	77	s	Zurich	3	37	d

Temperatures at midday local time. X = not available



Changes to the chart below from noon: low Q will move NE and fill. Low R will push NE and maintain pressure. Low Z will be slow moving and fill. High F will be stationary



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	-	-	0:08	6.86
Aberdeen	11:43	4.09	-	-
Avonmouth	5:24	12.21	5:54	12.51
Belfast	9:23	3.40	9:54	3.35
Cardiff	5:19	11.33	5:45	11.67
Devonport	3:52	5.08	4:26	5.03
Dover	9:32	6.12	9:48	6.30
Dublin	9:55	4.09	10:35	3.98
Falmouth	3:26	4.85	3:58	4.77
Glasgow	11:00	4.50	11:18	4.52
Harwich	10:13	3.72	10:35	3.67
Holyhead	8:39	5.35	9:15	5.24
Hull	4:41	6.87	4:50	7.03
Ilfracombe	4:14	8.65	4:42	8.76
King's Lynn	4:23	6.13	4:43	6.53

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
Leith	0:39	4.99	0:59	5.14
Liverpool	9:31	8.99	10:05	8.86
Lowestoft	7:52	2.31	7:52	2.34
Margate	10:30	4.49	10:48	4.55
Milford Haven	4:31	6.43	4:57	6.50
Newquay	3:20	6.35	3:48	6.42
Oban	4:19	3.69	4:49	3.52
Penzance	2:58	5.04	3:27	4.99
Portland	4:58	1.83	5:31	1.75
Portsmouth	9:36	4.48	10:13	4.64
Shoreham	9:42	5.78	10:11	5.98
Southampton	9:11	4.30	9:43	4.37
Swansea	4:39	8.76	5:08	8.84
Tees	1:57	4.83	2:15	4.96
W'ton-on-Nze	10:12	3.94	10:31	3.92

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HOURS OF DARKNESS

Sun rises: 6.51 am
Sun sets: 5.37 pm
Moon sets 3.38 pm
Moon rises 5.25 am

New moon March 1

London 5.37 pm to 6.49 am
Bristol 5.46 pm to 6.59 am
Edinburgh 5.42 pm to 7.08 am
Manchester 5.42 pm to 7.00 am
Penzance 6.00 pm to 7.09 am

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هكذا من الاهلي

FOOTBALL

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ROWING

29 Creating unity from pieces of eight

RUGBY UNION

31 Wasps stung into action in Exeter

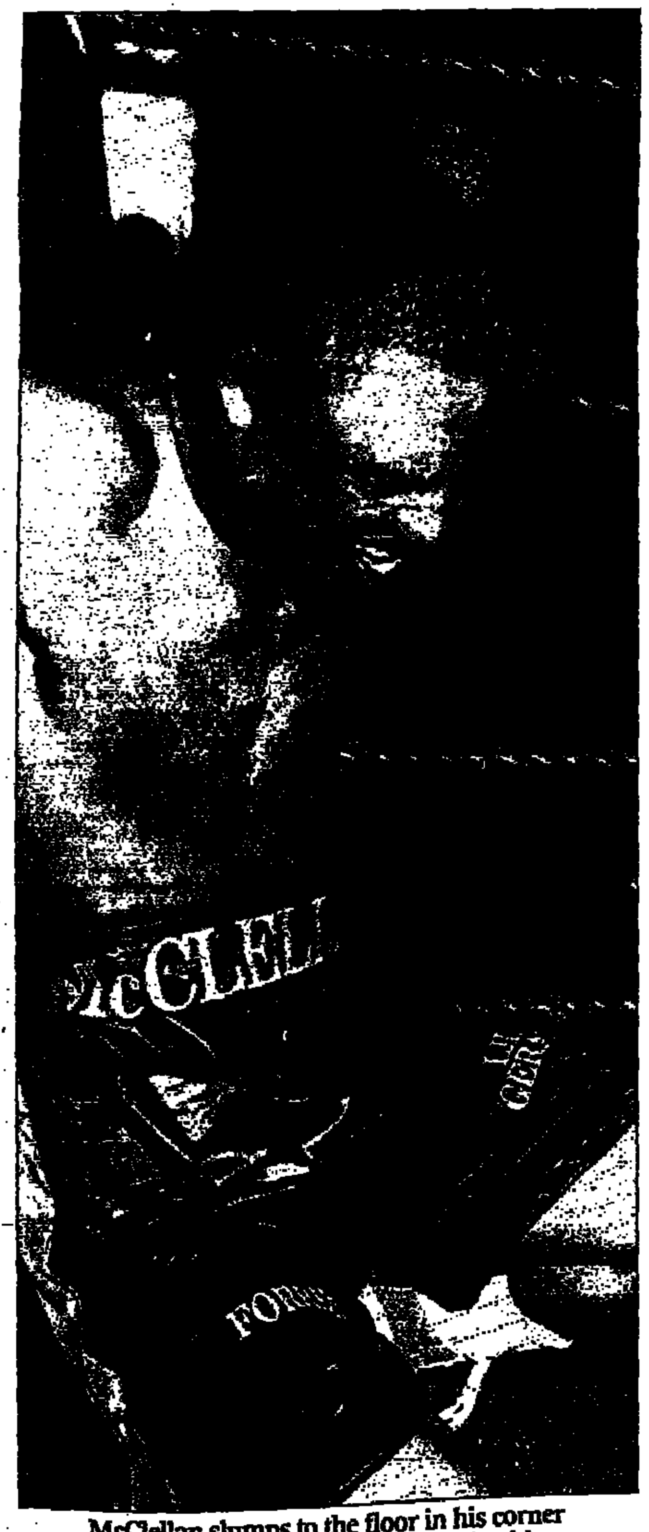
SPORT FOR ALL

33 Low-key game with lofty ambitions

TIMES SPORT

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27 1995

A determined Benn steps up the pressure on McClellan with another fearsome assault during their world super-middleweight championship struggle at the London Arena on Saturday night. Photograph: John Gichigi.



McClellan slumps to the floor in his corner after failing in his brave bid for the title

The most brutal fight I have seen

By Srikumar Sen, boxing correspondent

I CANNOT remember a fight as violent as Nigel Benn's World Boxing Council super-middleweight title defence against Gerald McClellan. Sugar Ray Leonard against against Roberto Duran in Montreal in 1980 and Leonard against Thomas Hearns a year later in Las Vegas were as fierce from start to finish and Hearns's three rounds against Marvin Hagler in 1985 in Las Vegas were more explosive, but, for sheer, unbridled savagery, those contests do not compare with the bout at the London Arena on Saturday.

Both boxers collapsed and both were taken to hospital. Yesterday, McClellan was in a stable comdition after an operation to remove a clot from his brain. At 27, his career in the ring is over. The bout will have left boxing looking like little more than legalised street violence.

It is a pity that the serious consequences marred Benn's achievement, for it was his finest performance. The champion had been expected to fold on receiving the first blows from the American challenger, who had been touted as the hardest puncher pound-for-pound in the world.

Benn's chin had looked so vulnerable in so many fights against lesser opponents, but here he took the blows that would have floored heavier men. Benn, who is most dangerous when hurt, fought back ever more ferociously after being knocked through the ropes in the first round.

Frank Warren, the promoter, said: "You were bitten so much by the drama and gore. That is how I saw Hagler against Hearns. This was ten rounds of Hagler and Hearns. In my time in boxing, this is one of the most dramatic and exciting fights, I have seen.

"I think at the end of it Nigel outgamed him. McClellan is a brave guy, but Benn had the bigger heart. He [McClellan] was holding his eye and moaning a little, but the big thing was that Benn kept going after him and never took a backward step."

Both boxers possess explosive punches and taking a blow from them can be compared to running full-tilt into a lamp-post. Because McClellan is a well-schooled boxer, the 10oz Mexican gloves used for world championship bouts looked, on his fists, no more than the padded coverings they are; but on Benn, a man who likes nothing better than a "tear up", they seemed to be non-existent. The way Benn was leaping in with swinging punches seemed as if he was using a baseball bat.

McClellan stable 1
Matthew Bond 24
Dramatic moments 25

McClellan is a brilliant technician, who depends on going in behind the jab. He did not find it difficult to break through Benn's defence and screwed some excruciatingly painful right hands into his opponent's face. Benn, not being as skilful a boxer, had only one plan: to draw McClellan within range and then fly at him with long, looping left hooks and right swings. It worked every time and with every blow that Benn landed, McClellan became more flat-footed.

Benn tried to ease himself into the bout and was surprised in the first round with the speed and power of McClellan's attack, particularly that of the turned right hand that sent him flying in confusion to the ropes. It looked all over. Benn took more than ten seconds to get back into the ring. The ferocity of the onslaught had cut his right cheek over the bone. He looked a sorry sight. For the rest of the round, he either ducked wildly out of the way from the big punches McClellan began to throw or held or ran round in a disorganised manner.

Benn finally replied by throwing two punches and they proved crucial. Those blows clearly hurt McClellan because, instead of going in to finish Benn in the second round, he backed round the ring, boxing defensively. Perhaps the former world middleweight champion, having stopped 20 of his 33 previous opponents in the first round, had not realised how hard super-middleweights can hit. From then on, McClellan preferred to counter-attack as Benn went after him.

The failure of his all-out attack to the head and body in an attempt to finish Benn in the eighth round broke McClellan's heart. The onslaught almost succeeded, but, after taking a count of only two, Benn came back for more, beckoning the challenger to engage toe-to-toe. That, together with the distress McClellan was beginning to experience in the ninth round as the result of an accidental clash of heads, drove Benn to greater ferocity.

In the final round, even before Benn could begin to pile in, the disorganisation in McClellan's brain had started to take over. He took two blows and realised something was seriously wrong: he knelt down and shook his head, signifying he did not want to continue.

The bout was shown on television in the United States and it would be surprising if, when the concern for McClellan's health has passed, the Americans did not revise their views of British boxers. Benn has never been acknowledged as a champion in America.

Benn, who suffered from exhaustion but was later allowed home from hospital, expressed his concern for McClellan and revealed the physical demands of the fight. "I am in a lot of pain," he said. "I have never been like this before. I feel as I have been battered from pillar to post. It is not that I can't take it, but I am not going to take a battering like that in my life."

Benn will have five more fights with Warren, as contracted, and make millions. McClellan will not box again.

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THE LOAN CORPORATION

TV thriller turns into late-night horror show

MATTHEW BOND

◆

TV ACTION REPLAY

Round ten was a terrible round for Gerald McClellan. It was also a pretty awful three minutes for ITV Sport. As we learnt from the death of Ayrton Senna and, more recently, from the riots in Dublin, the ugly transition from sport to news is one of the hardest challenges faced by television sports departments. But that said, Reg Gutteridge and Jim Watt were horribly slow to pick up on the tragedy unfolding in McClellan's corner.

All night, the cameras had picked out the energetic ringside presence of Frank Bruno. But not once did the cameras find Michael Watson. It was only when I read the Sunday papers that I realised that Watson had been there. As far as the commentary was concerned, he wasn't.

With perfect hindsight, much of what Gutteridge and Watt had to say sounds at best untimely, at worst downright unfortunate. But as long as Gutteridge makes a mental note not to use the horribly ambiguous jargon "he's done him" again, they should not be blamed for that. What the pair might like to reflect on is whether they might have been quicker to acknowledge that some serious physical harm had befallen McClellan. As they, of all people, knew, it had happened before.

Gutteridge, to give him credit, sensed there was something wrong at the beginning of round ten. "He's blinking a lot, Jim ... it may be a mannerism, but I doubt it." But having been proved dramatically right, there seemed only modest concern for McClellan's obviously fast deteriorating condition: "There's a Board of Control doctor with Gerald McClellan in the corner — just making sure he's OK." Given that the cameras had shown McClellan going from kneeling to slumped to prostrate in a minute and a half, this already smacked of unthinking understatement.

With Benn apparently oblivious of his opponent's condition, what the moment clearly required was some covering words of concern, the sort that Harry Carpenter was so good at. In such situations you run the risk of sounding pious and pompous if the fighter eventually clambers to his feet, shakes his head and goes off to congratulate the victor, but at least you have acknowledged that boxing is a dangerous game.

What we got was chaos. Gary Newbon, who emerged with credit from the Bruno v Marin farce and who was dubbed the voice of ITV boxing by Don King before the fight, did not help things. With his first question, he plumped for flattery (Nigel, your greatest performance, one of the great boxing performances of all time ...) when he should have opened with something about McClellan. It probably wouldn't have made any difference. A hyped-up Benn was in no mood to listen to questions, to such an extent that the worth and wisdom of these instant post-fight interviews must be called in to question. Newbon tried again, but in the heat of the moment confused McClellan with Mike McCallum. Now everyone was confused. The director sought sanctuary in the unlikely form of Jim Rosenthal.

Watt's reading of the fight will come into question — but unfairly. On four separate occasions he queried the weight of Benn's punches. "That's the big difference between the two," he said in round three: "McClellan's punches are hurting. Benn's have not really got the same impact." He made the same point in rounds six, seven and eight, while in rounds five, six, eight and nine he suggested that Benn was tiring the quicker, contradicting both Barry McGuigan and Naseem Hamed. Having seen the fight twice now, he was right — that's exactly how it did look.

"Something has to give," Watt said twice. But when he was eventually and tragically proved right, surely a fight veteran of his experience should have entertained the possibility that something was seriously amiss, rather than banging on about "heart". McClellan had plenty of that.

Karlsson overcomes nerves to clinch title

From Mel Webb in Valencia

THREE times in his career Robert Karlsson had finished second in PGA European Tour events, but yesterday the lofty young Swedish golfer went one better by taking the Turespaña Open Mediterrania title at Escorpion with a score of 276, 12 under par.

Karlsson's victory, which he completed with an occasionally jittery final round of 72 in blustery and awkward conditions, gave him victory by three shots from Jarmo Sandelin, who beat off the challenge of Severiano Ballesteros to take the Canary Islands Open two weeks ago, Anders Forsbrand, Sam Torrance and Miguel Ángel Jiménez.

Karlsson, 25, who led from start to finish, thus broke free of a seven-man group of youthful Swedes who had been runners-up in European events. Two of them, Pierre Fulke and Fredrik Lindgren, were on a final leaderboard here that was dominated by Swedes — of the top eight only Jiménez and Torrance broke their monopoly.

Trying, not always totally successfully, to hide the nerves that were doing their best to betray him, Karlsson went through more than one crisis of confidence, most notably when he bogeyed three holes in succession from the 12th.

He looked then what he was — a young man inexperienced in the ways of winning. Four holes later he had learnt a lesson that will stay with him for the rest of his career.

On another day his closing round might have left him still frustratedly pawing the ground outside the winner's circle, but an almost total lack of challenge from the pursuing pack left him to win more or less as he liked. Even as he raised his arms in triumph after making a par at the last he was engulfed and hurled aloft several times by a gang of his compatriots who had been urging him on from the sidelines.

Karlsson, shaken but not stirred by the joyous tomfoolery perpetrated on him by his friends — in Sweden it is known, apparently, as a "hissa" — said that leading from the first round, in which he had scored a course record of 64, had been a tiring experience.

"It has felt like a very long week, but it's been worth it," he said. "I went into the tournament with one main swing thought, to stop swaying forward at the start of the downswing, and that has got me through.

"Simon Holmes, my coach, has been here this week, and although I don't think it's necessarily a good thing to become dependent on him being around, I knew I wasn't swinging well when I arrived here, and, without Simon, I know I wouldn't have won."

Karlsson, at 6ft 5in the Tour's tallest player, birdied the 1st from 30 feet and did not make a mistake until he bogeyed the 9th.

He birdied the 10th and 11th, but failed to get up and down on the 11th, put his ball into trees on the 12th and went into water on the 13th.

If anybody was going to catch him, this was the moment, but his pursuers dutifully failed to take advantage of his errors, and when he birdied the 16th with a 10-foot putt after a nine-iron from 122 yards, he had the tournament won.

Torrance, the leading Briton, was not at his best in spite of recovering from a bout of food poisoning that had kept him up all Friday night.

He had two bogeys on the front nine to leave himself toiling in Karlsson's wake, and when he three-putted the 14th he was back to seven under par and effectively out of the title chase.

He redeemed himself on the 18th, however, covering the 492-yard par-five hole with an immense drive downwind across water and a nine-iron to two feet for a spectacular eagle three.

For Torrance, the £19,952 he collected that promoted him to ninth in the Ryder Cup table came as considerable consolation for what was an otherwise disappointing final round 73.

"I'm not quite ready to win, but I'm getting there," he said. There are plenty of birdies left in the old dog yet.

DETAILS

276: R Karlsson (Swe) 64, 69, 71, 72. 279: M-A Jiménez (Sp) 73, 69, 69, 68; J Sandelin (Swe) 68, 71, 71, 69; S Torrance 68, 67, 71, 73; A Forsbrand (Swe) 69, 71, 67, 72. 280: F Lindgren (Swe) 66, 68, 77, 69; P Fulke (Swe) 74, 68, 68, 70; P-U Johansson (Swe) 69, 71, 69, 71. 281: W Riley (Aus) 69, 70, 72, 70; R McFarlane 65, 70, 75, 71; P Affleck 71, 69, 69, 72; D Borrego (Sp) 70, 69, 70, 72; L Westwood 68, 72, 69, 72. 282: D Gilford 69, 74, 72, 67; I Palmer (SA) 71, 70, 70, 71; A Sherborne 66, 72, 72, 72; M James 69, 67, 73, 73; C Rocca (It) 69, 66, 74, 73. 283: M Mackenzie 69, 72, 74, 68; D Cooper 72, 69, 73, 69; H Clark 70, 71, 71, 71; J-M Cañizares (Sp) 67, 73, 71, 72; M Piñero (Sp) 71, 68, 72, 72; B Barnes 71, 65, 74, 73; L White 71, 69, 70, 73; P Baker 68, 70, 71, 74; V Fernández (Arg) 68, 67, 71, 77; A Binaghi (It) 71, 70, 68, 74.

RYDER CUP POINTS LIST (One point per £ won; GB and Ireland unless stated): 1, S Ballesteros (Sp) 333,422.18; 2, B Langer (Ger) 204,406.67; 3, C Montgomerie 199,395.00; 4, J M Olazábal (Sp) 156,577.50; 5, I Woosnam 148,222.50; 6, D Gilford 145,418.68; 7, P-U Johansson (Swe) 144,778.33; 8, M A Jiménez (Sp) 132,485.83; 9, S Torrance 119,311.79; 10, C Rocca (It) 113,483.59.

England's build-up boosted by two victories

By Alix Ramsay

THERE is still a long way to go before the European women's hockey championship in June but already Maggie Souyave, the England coach, has begun to lay the foundations for England's defence of their title.

Over the weekend she took a long look at the building blocks that will form the basis of her final team and scored two wins over Scotland at Lilleshall into the bargain.

On Saturday, a Jane Sixsmith goal gave England a 1-0 victory. Mandy Nicholls dispossessed a defender at the top of the circle and created the chance for Sixsmith to score the 57th international goal of her career. It was the highlight of an otherwise dour encounter that England could have let slip from their grasp right up to the final whistle.

With a squad of 21, Souyave decided to ring the changes for yesterday's encounter and rested four first-string players. Sixsmith, Jo Thompson, Lucy Youngs and Mandy Nicholls were all left to kick their heels on the touchline.

As a tactical move, it looked none too smart when Scotland took the lead with only nine minutes gone. A mix-up in the England defence allowed Fiona McInnes to set up Sue MacDonald for the strike.

As Souyave admitted after the game, it was not a good first half for England, the Scots looking strong and understandably eager to overturn Saturday's defeat. However, midway through the second half, Karen Brown equalised from a penalty corner with a high flick into the top corner of the net.

That seemed to spur England on and two minutes later they should have been ahead when a foul on Jane Smith earned a penalty stroke. However, Lisa Bayliss's shot was saved by Tracey Robb and a second England victory was looking unlikely.

Two goals from Smith in the last five minutes, though, gave Souyave the result she was looking for. First, Tina Cullen forced her way down the right flank and picked out Smith in the circle and, shortly after, a similar move, this time with Mandy Davies providing the cross, had the same result.

Souyave was happy with the double victory and the chance to see all her players in action. However, two wins from two training matches will not persuade such an experienced campaigner that England are on course for a successful defence of their European title.

"In the first half Scotland looked sharper but, once we started moving the ball around, we looked convincing," Souyave said.

KIM SCOTT-CLARK

Brown, of England, tries to keep possession during the 3-1 win over Scotland yesterday

Teddington go top of table

By Sydney Friskin

TEDDINGTON took over the leadership of the National Hockey League with an impressive 3-0 win over Old Loughtonians at Chigwell yesterday. It was a reward for a display of doughty defending in depth and threatening play on the break that Old Loughtonians could not resist.

Teddington's striking power was evident as early as the twelfth minute, when McGuire put them ahead from a short corner. Subsequent shots by the same player hit the crossbar and a post and McGuire had another shot taken off the line late in the game by Morrison.

Teddington extended their advantage with two early goals in the second half — the first by Wallis from a short corner and the other by Gibbins from open play. The home side's best chance arrived about midway in this period, but Krishman's shot was well saved by Meredith.

Old Loughtonians are not out of the running yet in the title race, but Southgate and Reading caught up with them in joint-second place, Southgate after beating Indian Gymkhana 5-1 and Reading after defeating Guildford 3-1.

Guy Gisborne scored three goals, two from penalty strokes, for Southgate, who led 2-1 at half-time. Waugh, from a short corner, and Attala added to the score, with Michael replying for Gymkhana. Two goals by Ashdown and one by Wyatt for Reading were answered by Jennings from a short corner for Guildford.

After a 3-1 win over Surbiton on Saturday, Cannock were checked yesterday by Canterbury, who forced a 2-2 draw after a blank first half, Matthews and Stephen Laslett scoring for Canterbury and Edwards from a penalty stroke and Channa replying for Cannock.

At the end of the day, Firebrands and Slough were still fighting relegation. Firebrands drew 2-2 with Havant, who were saved from defeat by Giles, who scored from a short corner.

St Albans, who conceded two goals in the first 15 minutes at home, recovered to beat Brooklands 3-2 to head the second division. Aldred scored both goals for Brooklands, St Albans hitting back with a goal by Halliday and two from Pell.

Results, page 32

Panthers rally late to beat Bears

By Nicholas Harling

ON A weekend of great comebacks by the teams pursuing Sheffield Sharks, the leaders in basketball's Budweiser League, the achievement of Doncaster Panthers took pride of place. The Panthers were, at one stage, 25 points down away to Worthing Bears before rallying improbably to win 103-98.

They did so with the help of 31 points from Chris Fite, 27 from Greg Modzelewski and 25 from Anthony Joseph. Worthing led 63-49 at half-time and 83-68 at three-quarters but still crumbled despite 35 points from Alan Cunningham, their player-coach who has discovered a new lease of life after his fortieth birthday. His four three-pointers in the first quarter would have taken his side further ahead than 36-29 but for five from Fite, who finished with seven in all.

The Leopards were in danger of being subjected to the surprise result of the season when they trailed 25-8 to the bottom club, Chester Jets. That they prevailed 87-72 was mainly due to Robert Youngblood's 24 points and Karl Brown's 23. Dave Gardner sank 22 for the Jets.

Manchester Giants threatened to emulate the Panthers and Leopards by coming back strongly against Thames Valley Tigers at Bracknell. Taking his cue from the earlier splendid work of Mark Robinson, Cam Johnson hauled the Giants back from a deficit of 71-57 just before the end of the third quarter. The American shot the first six points of the last quarter and followed that by sinking his fourth three-pointer 25 seconds from time, taking his tally to 29 points, to cut the leeway to two. Two subsequent free throws from Tony Holley enabled the Tigers to edge home 88-84.

The England international climbed out of his sick-bed to score 21 points. "Considering that he had been out with flu all week, Steve was unbelievable," Mick Bett, the Tigers coach, said. "He really showed his worth." Four three-pointers from Michael Hayles also contributed to the Tigers' success against opponents who had beaten them in both this season's previous encounters.

London Towers did not even have the chance of staging a recovery. They suffered a three-hour delay caused by a puncture to the team coach on the long haul to Washington only for the fixture against Sunderland Scorpions to be postponed after Kenny Scott damaged a backboard during the warm-up. As a back-up backboard at the Northumbria Centre was cracked and unusable, the crowd of 1,200 received vouchers for a future game.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Inquiry to question Williams on crash

FRANK WILLIAMS, the owner of the Williams Formula One motor racing team, is likely to be questioned by Italian prosecutors about the crash at the San Marino grand prix at Imola last year after which Ayrton Senna, three times the world champion, died. Prosecutors will decide whether to recommend bringing manslaughter charges against 17 people, including Williams, his technical director, Patrick Head, and officials of the company that runs the track.

"I will have to speak to the representatives of the Williams team again after the conclusions of the experts' report," Maurizio Passarini, the investigating magistrate, said.

"I don't know when it will be possible. April 30, the date of the San Marino grand prix, seems too far away. The important thing is to arrange a meeting. It is to their advantage."

Bruges game in doubt

FOOTBALL: FC Bruges, of Belgium, may be unable to stage its European Cup Winners' Cup quarter-final first leg match against Chelsea tomorrow because of a waterlogged pitch. Bruges's league match against Lierse on Saturday was postponed after heavy rain made play impossible.

"If the match doesn't take place, it's a disaster for the club," Antoine Vanhove, a club director, said. "We surely hope it doesn't rain any more until Tuesday. We'll do all we can to make sure that this match will be behind us." Uefa, European football's governing body, has told Bruges to stage the game on Wednesday if the pitch is unfit tomorrow evening.

Revenge for Krajicek

TENNIS: Richard Krajicek, left, the unseeded Dutchman, beat Michael Stich, of Germany, in a five-set thriller yesterday to win the Stuttgart men's grand prix tournament. Krajicek's 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 1-6, 6-3 victory in three hours avenged a loss to the fifth-seeded Stich in the final two years ago that also went the distance. The 23-year-old wasted three match points in the third set tie-break.

Palmer starts strongly

SWIMMIMG: Paul Palmer, the European and world short-course medal-winner, made a confident start to his long-course season with victory in the 200 metres freestyle at the multination meeting in Leeds yesterday. Palmer, 20, from Lincoln, was challenged for the first half of the race by Gavin Meadows, a local swimmer, but his winning time of 1min 53.06sec was 2.69sec ahead of Meadows.

Agassi pays for defeat

TENNIS: Andre Agassi, the No 2 seed, suffered his first defeat of the year, to Thomas Enqvist, of Sweden, 7-6, 5-7, 6-2 in a stormy semi-final of the United States indoor tournament in Philadelphia. Agassi was out of sorts throughout the 2½-hour match, during which he received a warning and a point penalty, and was booed by spectators afterwards. He was later fined £1,500 for his behaviour.

Bray wastes no time

REAL TENNIS: Chris Bray, the Petworth professional, wrapped up play on the third day of the British Land world championship national eliminator against Julian Snow after only one set at Hampton Court. Bray, the world No 5, was already leading 6-2 after a solid showing on the first two days against Snow, the British No 1 and the world's leading amateur. Bray took the set he needed for overall victory 6-5.

Oriel pushed hard

ROWING: Oriel were pressed to retain the headship of the Oxford University Torpids on Saturday. The rowing was reduced from four days to two because of a swollen stream, and Brasenose pushed Oriel all the way on both days. There were no bumps in the men's first division and only one in the women's, where Somerville were caught by New College and Wadham.

Bumps and finishing order, page 32

Top teams triumph

ICE HOCKEY: Nottingham Panthers, Sheffield Steelers and Cardiff Devils continued to set the pace in the premier division of the British League by winning on Saturday. In the first division, Trafford Metros suffered a setback in their bid for a play-off place by losing to Swindon Wildcats. It was their third successive defeat. They are seven points behind Swindon, in fourth place — the last play-off position.

Ngugi ban upheld

ATHLETICS: The drugs commission of the International Amateur Athletic Federation (IAAF) has upheld a four-year ban on John Ngugi, left, from Kenya, the five-time world cross country champion. Ngugi was banned for four years after refusing to provide British officials with a urine sample in 1993. Primo Nebiolo, the IAAF president, had asked the commission to re-examine the case.

Zimbabwe pull level

CRICKET: Sharp fielding and tight bowling enabled Zimbabwe to draw the one-day series against Pakistan by completing a 74-run victory with 6.5 overs to spare in the third and final match in Harare yesterday. Chasing 223 to win, Pakistan started well but lost their way after Inzamam-ul-Haq was out for 45 with the score at 106 for four.

Southern comfort

GOLF: Southern Africa, leading 9½-6½ overnight, won the inaugural Alfred Dunhill Challenge against Australasia 14-11 in Johannesburg yesterday. Nick Price and Greg Norman clashed in the singles, Price winning at the 18th. David Frost and Mark McNulty also won while Hendrik Buhrmann, Tony Johnstone and Fulten Allem tied.

Tong beats the men

TABLE TENNIS: Tong Feiming, who came within one point of leading the British league champions, BFL Grove, to the European Cup final ten days ago, beat two male internationals in the British league match against Euston yesterday. She beat Nicky Mason, of England, 21-15, 19-21, 22-20 and Nigel Tyler, of Wales, 21-15, 21-11.

هكذا من الاعلى

Benn's fightback ends in tragedy

Shocking finale eclipses contest of rare courage

Srikumar Sen witnesses the awful aftermath of a brutal encounter as doctors battle to save McClellan

However much Nigel Benn and Gerald McClellan might be admired for their spirited courage in their World Boxing Council super-middleweight bout at the London Arena on Saturday, the bout will be remembered for its tragic ending. The legacy of Benn coming back twice from what appeared certain defeat to win in the tenth and final round left McClellan undergoing an operation in a London hospital for a blood clot on the brain yesterday. His condition last night was described as "stable".

In the tenth round McClellan went down from two blows that normally would not have affected him, one a glancing punch behind the head and the other an upper cut. He simply went down on one knee, blinking his eyes and shaking his head as if in resignation. He was counted out by the referee, who seemed surprised as to why he was not getting up and continuing.

McClellan went back to his corner and, instead of sitting on a stool, flopped onto the floor leaning against the corner cushion as three doctors tried to revive him and cornermen slapped his face gently.

But McClellan's head slipped to one side off the cushion and slowly rested on the floor. The doctors put him onto his back and one of them started shouting: "Can you hear me? Can you hear me?" McClellan, eyes closed, did not respond. He remained unconscious for 13 minutes and was only removed to the Royal London Hospital after he finally opened his eyes.

I could see a doctor's fingers trembling as he put an oxygen mask over McClellan's face and I thought: "How strange". Clearly McClellan was in a serious condition. The doctor removed the mask and then asked: "Can you hear me?" again. McClellan's lips moved but his mouth did not open. It was as if he was trying to speak, but there was no sound. The capacity crowd of 12,000 were cheering as Benn gave them a victory salute. It was sickening to hear the noise around the stricken boxer. But how could the crowd know what was happening in the corner?

One of McClellan's cornermen spoke softy in the boxer's ear: "You are going to be alright, baby, you're going to be alright." Then he started shouting at the doctor: "He's having a seizure, man!" The doctor twice put his hand over McClellan's mouth, inserted an airway, and then replaced the oxygen mask. At this point the anaesthetist, Dr Alistair Skelly, appeared beside McClellan and gave him an injection. He received four injections altogether.

Dr Ferdie Pacheco, a commentator for Showtime, the American cable television company, thought the injections were a relaxant.

Still the doctor shouted: "Can you hear me?" and suddenly McClellan opened his eyes and tried to speak. One of the doctors went to look for a stretcher but found it had gone. He decided to use a St John Ambulance stretcher. "Someone's nicked mine," he said. Of course he did not know that at that time Benn, too, had collapsed on his way back to the dressing room and that stretcher had been used to take him to the same hospital as McClellan's. Benn, 31, was suffering from exhaustion but was later allowed to go home. After a sleeplesss night Benn said: "The fight doesn't mean anything anymore. I am very upset about it. Someone has been badly injured. I am very distressed with the way things went. I just feel empty."

'McClellan's head slipped and slowly rested on the floor'

To many it might have appeared that for the most part Benn was taking the punishment and not McClellan but that was not the case. The fact that Benn was trailing by no more than three points at the time of the stoppage despite having two points deducted for going down twice, in the first and the eighth, merely underlines how hard Benn was fighting back. McClellan looked on top because his boxing and punching technique was far superior to Benn's, but the champion was hurting him with right hands.

It seems that in the ninth round McClellan suffered some kind of head damage, which appears to have been the result of a clash of heads when Benn missed with a right and fell over hitting McClellan's head with his. It is most unlikely that the bang on the head was the sole cause of McClellan's head injury. More likely, Benn's earlier blows were having their tragic effect. From about the fifth round McClellan kept pushing his gum shield forward as if he was having trouble breathing.

Anyone receiving blows from Benn for nine rounds is bound to feel the effect some time or another. The fact that the final blows were not well placed does not mean all the previous blows were not taking their toll. Chris Eubank, the World Boxing Organisation super-middlewiehgt champion who has met Benn in the ring twice, has described Benn as an animal. "He has the power to kill me," Eubank said.

At first it was not clear why McClellan was unable to press home his advantage in the first round when Benn was knocked through the ropes. But Benn's manager, Peter De Frietas, probably had the right answer in believing that McClellan, who moved up from middleweight took on a super-middleweight like Benn too early.

Benn himself had pointed this out to McClellan at a press conference and said that he himself had taken months to get used to the new division. But McClellan had claimed that he really was a light-heavyweight struggling to make middleweight and as a result felt very happy as a super-middle. Clearly this was not the case or McClellan would not have come in for this fight at 11st 11lb, three pounds below the limit.

McClellan receives treatment after collapsing in the ring at the London Arena

McGuigan urges inquiry

By John Goodbody and Bill Frost

BARRY McGUIGAN, the former world featherweight champion and now president of the Professional Boxers' Association, wants a full inquiry into the medical arrangements at all professional promotions.

McGuigan's call came as MPs and medical organisations made a renewed demand for professional boxing to be outlawed after Gerald McClellan had to be put on a life-support system because of the injuries he sustained in his world super-middleweight title bout with Nigel Benn.

McGuigan said: "I want to have an immediate inquiry with the Professional Boxers' Association. We are meeting in midweek and we may even rush that to have a joint inquiry with the British Boxing Board of Control to review all the pre and post-fight medical arrangements."

John Morris, the Board's secretary, said yesterday that there were five doctors working at the promotion at the London Arena. There were also paramedic teams and two ambulances on stand-by.

Morris said that the Board's regulations did not require an anaesthetist to be present. Instead there had to be a doctor who was experienced in the use of anaesthetics.

Morris explained: "If any injury occurs, he can incubate the boxer, stabilise him and use the necessary drugs. Not only was that in place but we also had an anaesthetist there as well. With the size of the show, it was obvious that it could turn out to be a very gruelling contest.

"Everything was in hand. While the doctors were treating McClellan, I was phoning the London Hospital to alert their neurological unit that there was a boxer on the way. In my opinion, the care that was on hand and given was second to none."

John Sutcliffe, the surgeon who operated on McClellan and who treated Bradley Stone, the British boxer who died after a bout last year, said that the oxygen given by medical staff at the ringside had played a "crucial role" in keeping McClellan alive.

However, despite these precautions, there were renewed calls yesterday from the British Medical Association and Sam Galbraith, a neuro-surgeon and Labour MP for Startkelvin and Bearsden, to outlaw professional boxing. Watching from the ringside was Michael Watson, one of Benn's former rivals, who has been confined to a wheelchair since a bout with Chris Eubank in 1991.

However, a spokesman for the Health Department said: "If we banned boxing, it would go underground and it would not be regulated as it is now."

Sutcliffe, operating on McClellan at the Royal London Hospital on Saturday night, removed a blood clot measuring 8cm by 6cm. He said yesterday it was too early to know whether the boxer would survive.

He added: "It would be fair to say that he is stable but things could take a change for the better or worse over the next 48 to 72 hours. It is difficult at this stage to predict any damage there may have been."

Gill, of West, left, and Penn, of Combined Universities, compete during the All-England territorial lacrosse tournament yesterday

Women with their sights set on Japan

Stuart Jones meets England's women's lacrosse stars aiming for the world cup

The Cow Roast is set beside the A4251 outside Berkhamsted, Hertfordshire. A seventeenth-century inn, it will come to be regarded by 16 women as one of the more significant landmarks because it also stands on the road to Tokyo, the venue of the next lacrosse World Cup.

"Go towards Tring and look out for the pub with the unfortunate name," was Helen Walsh's advice. One of her duties was to publicise the staging of the second weekend of the All-England territorial tournament, an event which acts effectively as the national trial.

The other was to represent the West against the Combined Universities yesterday. "I'll be easy to spot", she said. "I'm in goal. I'll be the only one in there. You'll be easy to spot, too. You'll be the only one on the sidelines who isn't a player or a parent." She was right on both counts. The matches were to have been held at Haberdasher's Aske's school in Elstree but the pitch there was waterlogged. They were staged instead on the grounds of the local hockey club.

The West were expected to win and they did, by the hefty margin of 9-2, but the victorious goalkeeer cited two members of the opposition as prime examples of England's most talented youngsters. They were Kate Heywood, 20, and Lucy Shaw, a year younger.

They are certain to be picked in the provisional squad of 80, to be announced in a fortnight, and in the group of 36 to be assembled for the internationals against Wales and Scotland in April. The selection uppermost in their minds, though, lies in March, 1997. Heywood has already experienced the elation of being included in the World Cup squad — and the misery of being excluded, too. She was eventually chosen only as a non-travelling reserve for Australia two years ago. So, without having to endure the process of elimination, was Shaw.

They have since worn the national colours, albeit as members of the under-24 team, in America last year. Before the three tests (as internationals are known), a warm-up game became literally that. In Washington, the temperature reached a record high of 97F. "With the humidity, it was supposed to be closer to 120," Walsh, whose broken thumb was in a cast, recalled. She was perspiring so freely that her kneepads kept falling down her legs. Heywood remembers running down the wing and scarcely being able to breathe through her mouth guard. England lost all three tests, if narrowly.

Heywood is now a wing defence, a position akin to central midfield, and, even at her tender age, acts as the player-coach of Birmingham University's team. Last year they were the All-England champions, an honour thought to be unprecedented for college students.

Shaw, a colleague of Heywood's throughout their apprenticeship in the junior Surrey, South and England sides, followed her to Birmingham as well. Her position is first home, the term given to the leader of the attack.

Together, they helped to lift the Combined Universities above their customary role as holders of the wooden spoon (by beating the Midlands during the first weekend a fortnight ago). Together, they aim to assist England against their traditional rivals, the Americans and the Australians, in Japan.

Although the Japanese took up the game only seven years ago, keen interest has been generated. An England representative side, virtually a B team, playing in two exhibitions last year drew crowds of more than 8,000. The hosts, in spite of the friendly nature of the occasions, were shown no mercy. Still novices, they were outclassed 22-0 and 23-1.

The South took the territorial title on goal difference after finishing level on points with the West.

Confident Thomson holds on to his title

By Gordon Allan

ANDY THOMSON won the Churchill Insurance world indoor bowls singles championship for the second year running when he defeated Richard Corsie 7-2, 7-6, 7-3, in front of a capacity crowd at the Preston Guild Hall yesterday. It brought him the first prize of £26,000 and made him the first man since Tony Allcock, in 1986 and 1987, to retain his title.

In the earlier rounds, Corsie had been more impressive than Thomson. In the final, however, Thomson played the more consistent bowls, with steadier line and length. The match lasted 1hr 34min and Thomson made a fine start, leading 5-0, conceding two singles, and taking the set with a trail for two shots when he was a possible three down.

He was in serious trouble only in the second set. Corsie led 6-1 before Thomson scored three consecutive twos to overtake him. The third set was the shortest. Corsie picked up three on the second end to make it 3-1.

On the next end, Thomson, holding one, jarred the jack back a foot or so with his last bowl and collected a full house of four shots. On the last end, Corsie knocked his own nearest wood out of the head with his fourth bowl, leaving Thomson with a match-winning two, which had to be confirmed on a measure.

Thomson said: "I didn't bowl as well today as I did against Tony Allcock in our semi-final. Richard's been playing the most incredible bowls I've ever seen in the past two weeks, and I was surprised to win in straight sets." Corsie said: "I can't explain what went wrong today. I wasn't playing at all. Andy's a great champion and I just wish I could have given him a closer game."

On Saturday, in the pairs final, Corsie and Alex Marshall, who won the world outdoor championship in 1992, beat Allcock and David Bryant 6-7, 7-4, 7-3, 1-7, 7-4. Allcock and Bryant have been champions six times but Corsie and Marshall are the first Scots to win the title.

Wigan take stroll in afternoon sun

Batley	4
Wigan	70

By Christopher Irvine

A VOLUBLE ground announcer was tempting providence, informing Wigan as they took to the mud-baked Mount Pleasant yesterday, that they faced the might of the first winners of the Rugby League Challenge Cup.

That first and last triumph by Batley was in 1897. Only once previously, in Wigan's unbeaten 39-tie sequence in the Silk Cup competition, had the holders beaten up opponents quite so emphatically.

Gary Connolly, a thoroughly deserved man of the match, had justified grievance with a disallowed try in injury time that would have exceeded the 72-4 second-round defeat of Rochdale Hornets in 1992.

Given that Wigan had scored 11 legitimate tries and Batley were narrowly spared a possible rewriting of their own record books with a new biggest defeat, the protests were brief.

The gulf was embarrassing at times, with Wigan enjoying a little more than an afternoon stroll and with Leigh going down by an incredible 94-4 at Workington, the second divison had a sorry fifth round.

A glorious winter's day at least caused a potential glue-pot of a surface to harden. From Batley's view, however, this was not much blessing. At least the mud might have stopped the Wigan juggernaut in its tracks.

Opting to play up their dreaded slope was not one of Batley's better decisions. Containment, if that was their objective, had dissolved into utter helplessness by 18 minutes. Wigan, rampant and hungry for more, were 24-0 in front.

At this stage, with Cameron and Gilfillan already off injured, Jeff Grayshon, Batley's veteran player-coach, was forced to pitch himself into the fray earlier than anticipated.

The Wigan tide washed over them from the eighth minute onwards, with a freakish try when Cassidy toed over the Batley line. Although only on for 47 minutes, Martin Offiah managed to take his season's try tally to 41 with three first-half touchdowns, while the forwards, Skerrett and Clarke, managed to get in on the scoring act in the opening period. Paul scored in both halves, but the second 40 minutes was less brutal.

Edwards and Tuigamala touched down late on, while Botica slotted three easy penalties to take his final tally to ten from 11 goal attempts.

Batley, abjectly beaten, did not go unrewarded. On the one occasion they threw the ball with abandon, instead of dropping it, Wilson's long pass found Murfin, who flicked the ball outside to Thornton for his fifteenth try of the season.

SCORERS: Batley: Try: Thornton. Wigan: Tries: Offiah (3), Paul (2), Cassidy, Skerrett, Clarke, Connolly, Edwards, Tuigamala. Goals: Botica (10), Paul (3).
BATLEY: D Moxon; G Thornton, J Gilfillan (sub: J Grayshon, 22min), J Irvine, S Walker; S Wilson, G Tomlinson; A Parkinson, M Scott, C McWilliams, P Murfin, D Child, M Cameron (sub: G Middleton, 16).
WIGAN: H Paul; J Robinson, V Tuigamala, G Connolly, M Offiah (sub: P Atcheson, 47); F Botica, S Edwards; K Skerrett, M Hall, N Cowie, D Betts, M Cassidy (sub: S Quinnell, 49), P Clarke (sub: Cassidy 68).
Referee: C Morris.

Workington run riot

WORKINGTON'S 94-4 win over Leigh, which lifted them into the Silk Cut Challenge Cup quarter-finals, was the biggest in their history. Their previous best was a 78-0 demolition of Highfield two years ago. They passed that score after just 68 minutes when Dean Marwood ran his fourth try before adding the conversion.

It took Marwood's personal tally in the match to 42 points and equalled his club record against Highfield — 13 goals and a total of 42 points. Leigh had no answer to a powerful performance from the Cumbrians who scored 17 tries to reach the last eight.

Mark Aston scored 18 points in Featherstone's 30-10 win over Salford to reach the quarter-finals. The sides were level 10-10 at the break but Aston scored a try early in the second half, landed two dropped goals and kicked six goals from nine attempts.

Wells congratulates selectors

ALAN WELLS, the England A captain, paid tribute to Raymond Illingworth and his fellow selectors in Dhaka yesterday for picking the right team for the tour of India and Bangladesh.

Wells, speaking after England A's three-day match with Bangladesh had ended in a draw, said: "Ray and his panel did a brilliant job as far as I am concerned. It was a privilege for me to captain such a good side.

"They picked the perfect blend of batsmen, left and right-handers, to cope with India's spinners. We had a fine line-up of match-winning spinners ourselves, and our swing bowlers always performed to inflict damage when it was most needed."

Expanding his thoughts on the triumphant two-month tour, on which England A lost only one match — the first one-day international against India A in Indore — Wells said: "It's been very tiring but the players should feel immensely proud of themselves for what they have achieved.

"If I had to mention a word that best sums up our strength, it would be 'adaptability'. We were well prepared at Lilleshall and if things went against us we were prepared to change our game accordingly."

England A turned the final day of the tour into a batting exhibition, with neither side prepared to risk anything to achieve a result. It was dominated for all but the final hour by David Hemp and Nick Knight, who shared a third-wicket stand of 283 rich in powerful strokes, immense patience and endurance against a lightweight Bangladesh attack.

Hemp, who batted for just under seven hours, scored 190 from 339 deliveries, with his four sixes and 16 fours drawing generous applause from an appreciative crowd.

Knight contributed 150 — his third century in four innings — as England A piled up 421 for seven in response to Bangladesh's first-innings 365 for six declared.

BANGLADESH XI: First Innings

Athar Ali retired hurt	18
Javed Belim c Knight b Chapple	39
†Khaled Masud b Salisbury	7
Aminul Islam b Johnson	121
Minhazul Abedin c Piper b Gallian	81
*Akram Khan lbw b Johnson	6
Enamul Hoque c Vaughan b Wells	25
Naimur Rahman not out	34
Extras (b 11, lb 10, w 7, nb 4)	32
Total (6 wkts dec)	365

Saiful Islam, Anisur Rahman and Mohammad Rafiq did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-62, 2-98, 3-277, 4-293, 5-300, 6-365.

BOWLING: Chapple 14-2-50-1; Johnson 19-6-53-2; Stemp 14-1-46-0; Salisbury 20-3-53-1; Patel 10-1-29-0; Vaughan 7-2-22-0; Gallian 13-0-45-1; Hemp 5-0-26-0; Wells 3.5-1-18-1.

ENGLAND A: First Innings

N V Knight c Akram b Naimur	150
D L Hemp c Mohammad b Minhazul	190
G Chapple st Khaled b Enamul	26
R L Johnson c Mohammad b Minhazul	1
K J Piper b Akram	7
M M Patel not out	0
Extras (b 10, lb 6, w 2)	18
Total (7 wkts, 127.1 overs)	421

A P Wells, I D K Salisbury and R D Stemp did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-34, 2-72, 3-355, 4-402, 5-413, 6-418, 7-421.

BOWLING: Anisur Rahman 14-3-54-0; Saiful Islam 15-3-45-1; Enamul Hoque 26-7-72-2; Mohammad Rafiq 19-1-70-0; Naimur Rahman 28-5-85-1; Aminul Islam 11-1-39-0; Minhazul Abedin 11-1-36-2; Akram Khan 3.1-0-5-1.

Umpires: Mohammad Asjhar and Sailab Hassain Tutl.

Australia ease to victory and spoil birthday

AUSTRALIA warmed up for their tour of the West Indies starting later this week when they cruised to a six-wicket victory over New Zealand in the final of the New Zealand Cricket Centenary series in Auckland yesterday.

Set 138 to win after New Zealand struggled to 137 for nine, Australia powered home with 18 overs and five balls to spare, helped by a second-wicket partnership of 88 between Mark Taylor (44) and Mark Waugh (46).

The New Zealand captain, Ken Rutherford, who top-scored with 46, opted to bat first on a grassy pitch that offered early movement to the seamers, Glenn McGrath, Paul Reiffel and Mark Waugh, before the spinners, Shane Warne and Tim May, bowled effectively.

☐ Mark Greatbatch, the batsman, has been recalled to the New Zealand team to face South Africa in a one-off Test match to start on March 4 in Auckland.

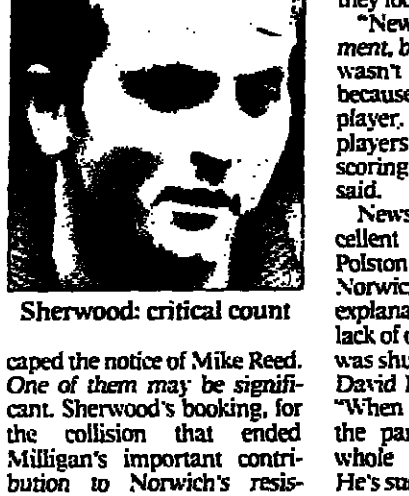
Blackburn have good luck after poor game

Blackburn Rovers 0
Norwich City.................. 0

By Peter Ball

THERE were no goals but eight bookings at Ewood Park on Saturday. The goals tally was a fair reflection of the game; the bookings tally was not. There was a time when eight bookings would have represented a right old ding-dong: people being taken off at the knees left, right and centre, bodies strewn across the pitch. The old Leeds United at their worst, against Burnley, say.

On Saturday, the assorted crimes were as low-key as the football; at worse mistimed tackles, in one or two cases hardly worth a free kick, let alone a yellow card. "I got booked for persistent fouling, yet I think there were only a couple of tackles with Shearer," Jon Newsome, the Norwich captain, said. Others could probably echo his plaint. Ironically, the worst, Le Saux's elbow in the face of the promising young Johnson, escaped the notice of Mike Reed. One of them may be significant. Sherwood's booking, for the collision that ended Milligan's important contribution to Norwich's resistance, could take him to 41 points and a suspension.


Sherwood: critical count

That persuaded Kenny Dalglish that Mike Reed should be asked to re-examine that booking, while Gordon Taylor, the chief executive of the Professional Footballers Association, concluded that it provided further evidence that the new system has gone too far. "Tim Sherwood isn't a 41-points-a-season man," Taylor protested, somewhat tendentiously. "I think it has been too heavy an interpretation, and I think the entertainment has suffered."

There are those who disagree with that, feeling that cutting out the cynical tackles can only improve the game. There may be more sympathy for his association's call for the reinstatement of the appeals system. "A lot of people feel that we should have a formal appeal system," Taylor said. "All we can rely on at the moment is the referee agreeing to change his mind. We feel there should be a more independent review of cautions."

At the moment, Taylor's association is on its own. "We agreed at the start of the season that we would run with it for a season and then see where we were," John Deehan, the Norwich manager, said, and, for the moment, that seems the most balanced view.

If Norwich had the best argument, by the end they also won the moral victory on the field, too. They were unrecognisable as the side that had collapsed at Everton a week earlier. Organised and determined, they frustrated Blackburn, and, in the second half, only two fine saves by Flowers prevented Cureton from securing the win.

It was one of Blackburn's least convincing performances. They might have scored early on, Le Saux hitting the post after a sweeping move down the left, but they were never to repeat the fluency of that movement. With Sutton absent and Shearer well held, they looked all too predictable.

"Newell's a great replacement, but we were glad Sutton wasn't playing, not just because he's such a good player, but because our old players are making a habit of scoring against us," Deehan said.

Newsome, who had an excellent match together with Polston at the heart of the Norwich defence, had another explanation for Blackburn's lack of options when route one was shut off. "I think they miss David Batty," Newsome said. "When he is in the middle of the park, he gives them a whole different dimension. He's such a good footballer, he gives them another string to their bow."

Yet having played poorly, Blackburn came out ahead, Manchester United's defeat meaning they are now a point further ahead than they were on Saturday morning. That sort of luck is the mark of a championship side.

"I said at the start that with Shearer and Sutton they just looked so strong, and I think they'll edge it," Deehan said. "Apart from anything else, it is so difficult to win it three times running."

BLACKBURN ROVERS (4-4-2): T Flowers — H Berg, I Pearce, C Hendry, G Le Saux — S Ripley, M Atkins (sub: P Warhurst, 74min), T Sherwood, J Wilcox — A Shearer, M Newell

NORWICH CITY (4-4-2): A Marshall — C Bradshaw, J Newsome, J Polston, M Bowen — N Adams (sub: D Sutch, 18), A Johnson, M Milligan (sub: J Cureton, 76), D Eadie — M Sheron, A Ward

Referee: M Reed

Klinsmann takes off to score his 21st goal of the season with a flying header, but it failed to save Tottenham Hotspur from defeat

Ekoku executes Kinnear's master plan

Tottenham Hotspur.................... 1
Wimbledon................................ 2

By Pat Gibson

JÜRGEN Klinsmann, whose command of English has been almost as impressive as his football since he arrived at White Hart Lane, was for once linguistically challenged after Wimbledon had become only the second team to beat Tottenham Hotspur in 17 matches.

The articulate German did not want to answer allegations that he had resorted to trying to win penalties in a desperate attempt to break down Wimbledon's resistance. Three impassioned appeals were rejected and Klinsmann showed his frustration by aiming a retaliatory blow at Wimbledon defender, Andy Thorn.

"Penalties? Are you sure?" Thorn asked. "Every time Klinsmann dived it was 9.9, 9.9, 9.9. If he wants to go down and then he's trodden on, that's up to him."

The bad feeling spilled into the players' tunnel at the end of the match when Klinsmann's striking partner, Sheringham, engaged in a brief scuffle with Harford, the Wimbledon substitute, before Gerry Francis, the Tottenham manager, stepped in to prevent it from developing into anything too serious.

All this was a great pity because the side issues tended to detract from a result that was a tactical triumph for Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager.

On paper it was no contest — an estimated £15 million of attacking talent in Klinsmann, Sheringham, Anderton and Barmby against a defence that cost £400,000. Yet, in the end, Tottenham were reduced by Kinnear's plan to playing like Wimbledon are supposed to.

The strategy still would not have worked but for Ekoku, the Nigerian international striker. He was left on his own at the front and twice he showed the skill and strength of a man who relishes responsibility to embarrass the Tottenham defence.

The first time, in the 35th minute, with two Tottenham players awaiting substitution, Ekoku was left in yards of space and he clipped a low-left foot shot past Walker from 25 yards.

Tottenham equalised four minutes into the second half when Edinburgh curled in a teasing cross. Segers was beaten to it by Sheringham and Klinsmann threw himself bravely in front of Thorn to head his 21st goal of the season.

Tottenham sensed victory but they had reckoned without Ekoku, who won the game when he raced from the centre circle and shot crisply past Walker into the far corner of the net.

TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S [illegible] (sub: D Austin, 38min), C Calderwood, G [illegible], J Edinburgh — D Anderton, G Popescu (sub: [illegible]), D Howells, N Barmby — E Sheringham, J Klinsmann

WIMBLEDON (5-4-1): H Segers — K Cunningham, C Perry, A Thorn, A Reeves, A Kimble — W Barton, P Fear, [illegible] — E Ekoku

Referee: D Gallagher

Hitchcock action comes from higher plane

Andrew Longmore on how fluky Chelsea will not worry Bruges

IF CHELSEA play in Bruges tomorrow night as they did in beating West Ham United 2-1 on Saturday, they can fold up their map of Europe and plan for away-days to Barnsley and Grimsby instead.

Quite simply, Chelsea were shambolic, short of authority in defence and bite in attack, devoid of shape or imagination all round, second best for all bar 30 seconds.

So how did they win? Neither Glenn Hoddle, their manager, nor his opposite number, Harry Redknapp, had the faintest idea.

Stein's magnificent volley midway through the second half had something to do with it, a momentary lapse of concentration from a throw-in, which led to the Chelsea equaliser, did not help. But when a reserve goalkeeper called Hitchcock comes on for 12 minutes and pulls off two instinctive finger-tip saves, and then the referee changes his mind about a potential equaliser a minute from time, you sense higher forces at work.

Poor Redknapp. What irked him most was the lack of justice, not in whether Gerald Ashby, of Worcester, was right to disallow the goal — he was right, because Morley clearly fouled the goalkeeper — but in the way the ordinary, decent virtue of hard work had been railroaded by more fickle elements.

Managers hate the powerlessness and hate feeling that nothing they do during the week will make any difference to the result on a Saturday afternoon. It is why they get so frustrated with referees.

Chelsea, though, are even more of a puzzle. Admittedly, the absence of the suspended Dennis Wise upset their balance, but they do not seem to be making much progress with Hoddle's tactical wizardry.

So disjointed were they, at one moment in the second half, if you had drawn a line from penalty spot to penalty spot, nine of their ten outfield players would have been on the same side, four within two yards of the ball.

Time and again, Minto was caught between the two stools of trying to defend as a full back and attack as a wing half, while Cottee found so much space between his sentries, Lee and Johnsen, he could have snatched a hat-trick before half-time.

Wise will be back for the Cup Winners' Cup first leg against Bruges, but unless Chelsea tighten up all round, the tie will be over by the time the Belgians arrive at Stamford Bridge in two weeks.

The sight of Kharine walking off, holding his left shoulder, did not ease their fears. For all Hitchcock's heroics, the Russian is a reassuring presence on European sorties.

For an hour, West Ham were comfortably in control, worth a lead far greater than Hutchison's drive from a post-corner loose ball had given them in the first half.

Then came a throw-in. Minto took it quickly, found Peacock scampering behind Breacker to the by-line and Burley stabbed home the low cross for a simple equaliser.

Fifteen minutes from the end, Stein collected a pass on his chest and thundered in a stunning volley from an acute angle for the undeserved winner.

A header by Dicks, clawed away by Hitchcock, a desperate parry from Cottee, another header by Allen against the bar and, finally, the "goal", scored by Cottee, awarded by the referee but denied by the linesman who had flagged for the foul on Hitchcock.

WEST HAM UNITED (4-3-3): L Miklosko — T Breacker, M Rieper, S Potts, J Dicks — M Allen, I Bishop, J Moncur — D Hutchison, T Morley, A Cottee.

CHELSEA (4-4-2): D Kharine (sub: K Hitchcock, 78min) — S Clarke, D Lee, E Johnsen, S Minto — D Rocastle (sub: P Furlong, 60), E Newton, C Burley, G Peacock — M Stein, J Spencer.

Referee: G Ashby.

Liverpool find traces of old certainty

Simon Barnes suggests that the Premiership title race might be a three-cornered affair after all

Liverpool for the treble? Why not? They are the only club that could still bring it off. They are in both cups, and though the Premiership is supposed to be a two-horse race, Liverpool made ground on the top nags by beating Sheffield Wednesday 2-1 at Hillsborough. And they have a couple of games in hand.

They weren't really trying, either. It is cups, not leagues, that dominate Liverpool minds this season after two trophy-free years. And so Rush had a game off with a niggling groin, but will be back for the FA Cup match against Wimbledon tomorrow. So, perhaps, will Molby.

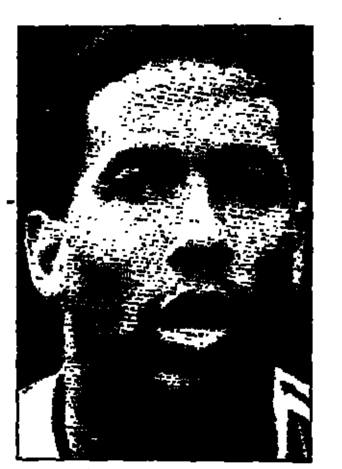
Ruddock was also missing, but with a suspension, one that falls nicely to allow him back in midweek. So Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, took the opportunity to try out a few formational whims: flat back four instead of his beloved triple centre-back system, Fowler as the single forward, and a staggered five-man midfield.

Wednesday, eighth in the table on Saturday morning, are one of those sides that has risen without trace this season, and who look like reversing the process with three successive league defeats.

Trevor Francis, their manager, turned up afterwards on the cusp of a Basil Fawlty rage. Only his innate good manners stopped him head-butting the wall and chewing the carpet. Waddle had gone off at half-time because he was "tired", Francis explained through painfully gritted teeth. His theme was that his team had played awfully well, and be was clearly in shock at their failure to garner so much as a point. "It's my life," he said. "I work all week for this. You've seen the type of football we play and when we don't get something from the game ..." Thank you, God, as Basil would have said, thank you so much.

But you have to score goals. Wednesday opened with a splendid example of these rare things, set up by an imaginative through ball from Petrescu and finished sweetly by Bart-Williams. Both players did grand things all afternoon. Bart-Williams sounds like the player who won the FA Cup for Casuals in 1895, but he could become one of the better players of the next few seasons.

Liverpool got into things rather more slowly. They lack, as yet, the sense of self-certainty that was always Liverpool's hallmark. They squander possession more than you expect; they don't know, as did the teams of old, exactly where the nearest two red shirts are and at what pace they are moving.


Barnes: pivotal

A sense of continuity is provided by Barnes. Slowed a little by advancing years, he is forced at the age of 31 to compensate by using that underrated footballing organ, the brain. As Pelé said, breaking into verse,

> "*I run much faster*
> *than those who run*
> *without thinking.*"

Barnes these days plays just in front of the back four (or three), distributes with *élan* and advances with caution. He has become a pivot. And he still scores goals as well. He brought Liverpool level when he rose to a Thomas corner like a centre back, and headed home with nonchalance. That finished Wednesday off: back into the dressing-room at 1-1 and poor Waddle tired, as if the fatigue of a lifetime of bad haircuts had finally got to him.

Liverpool had the edge in the second half without ever truly taking control. There was never any doubt that this was a Liverpool side in transition, reeling under the weight of history. But the winning goal would have graced the Liverpool of the Eighties; for that matter, Barnes would probably have scored it. In the Nineties, these things are left to McManaman.

He beat his man, ran towards the byline and cut the ball back to Redknapp. Redknapp then repeated the manoeuvre, cutting the ball back to McManaman. For half a second this repetition looked a waste of time, and then McManaman was shifting the ball deftly from right foot to left, opening a small but perfect gap, and curling the ball through it.

Sweet moment. Your first goal after a personal drought tends either to be flukey or spectacular. McManaman had not scored since October. he took the second route, and gave everybody something to remember. Watson might have got a late equaliser for Wedneday, but James, emerging game by game as a goalkeeper of real quality, made a startlingly good stop. It was doubly good considering he was playing on one leg after a first-half collision with Whittingham. Fit for Tuesday, Roy? "He's got to be."

Evans dismissed Liverpool's chances of winning the league. He knows his side is not the finished article. But on Saturday they took a small step towards completion. Liverpool's league season has been a stop-go business. Will Evans's side have grown into their patterns, their history, their traditionl self-certainty in time for next season? Never mind that now: Onward to those two cups.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Pressman — D Petrescu (sub: G Watson, 73min), P Atherton, D Walker, I Nolan — C Waddle (sub: J Sheridan, 46), C Bart-Williams, G Hyde, A Sinton — M Bright, G Whittingham.

LIVERPOOL (4-1-3-1-1): D James — R Jones, J Scales, P Babb, S I Bjornebye — J Barnes — J Redknapp, M Thomas, M Walters (sub: D Matteo, 80) — S McManaman — R Fowler.

Referee: D Elleray.

Arsenal need brushwork

Crystal Palace.............. 0
Arsenal 3

By Michael Henderson

AMID the hullabaloo about the Arsenal manager's job, one name has not been mentioned. Basil Brush. Why not? He enjoys the respect of his peers, is used to a high profile and is dedicated to the noble cause of cheering us all up. With Mr Derek alongside him this could be the "dream ticket" politicians are always on about. Come on Gunners, send for the snooty fox!

It is not so batty as you might think. All the hot air expended in the past week on Arsenal and George Graham would keep Phileas Fogg up in his balloon until the crack of doom. There was even a "we won it for George" after Arsenal's victory over Nottingham Forest last week.

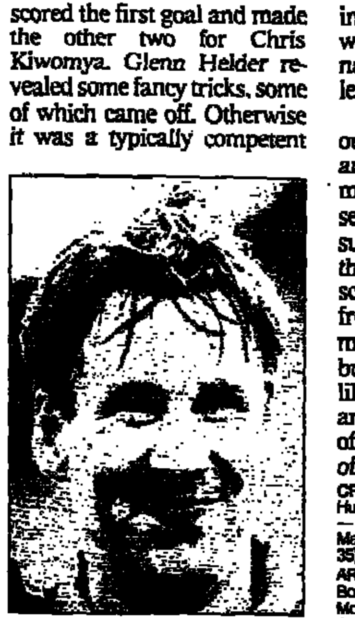
On Saturday, Melvyn Bragg, of all unlikely people, was at it. He feels that Graham could eventually have his job back, and the club might stick the former manager's bust up in their marble hall. What was BBC Radio doing asking this belletrist his opinions in the first place? Nobody asks Graham whether they should do more foreign plays at the National Theatre ("Soccer boss in Schiller shock!").

Clive James had the best line on football managers years ago when Tommy Docherty committed perjury in the High Court. It was suggested that Docherty was not fit to manage a football club. "That's exactly what he's fit for," James wrote.

How football needs a Danny Blanchflower to storm its temple, denouncing the money-lenders and talking some robust common sense. It was Blanchflower who used to talk of tradition at clubs and how difficult it was to swim against prevailing currents. So when Arsenal consider who should succeed Graham there is little chance of them appointing a cavalier. And little chance for him if they did.

They may look no further than Stewart Houston, who is reliable, decent and honest as they come. He is dull, but that is a virtue at Highbury. If you value worthy professionalism, Houston is the sort of chap to deliver it round the clock. The win at Selhurst Park on Saturday was a tribute to the qualities that have sustained the club for decades.

There was some flair in the form of Paul Merson, who scored the first goal and made the other two for Chris Kiwomya. Glenn Helder revealed some fancy tricks, some of which came off. Otherwise it was a typically competent away-day, made for the likes of Bould and Dixon. The heart does not exactly skip a beat at the prospect of McGoldrick marauding down the right wing. A million pounds for this man! Graham should have been charged there and then for bringing the game into disrepute.


Merson: prominent

Of all the characters caught up in this year of disgrace Merson deserves the most sympathy. Like many footballers, he is a man of limited horizons and gets lost easily in the world beyond the game. But that does not make him a bad person and, as a footballer, he has always stood out in an Arsenal shirt (a horrible blue one here) as a gifted forward.

His goal, after 24 minutes, came from a free kick Kelvin Morton awarded for Southgate's inoffensive tackle on Helder. Jensen rolled the ball in to the area where Merson, who had made a smart diagonal run, shot it through the legs of the advancing Martyn.

Kiwomya looked hopelessly out of his depth in the first half and the addition of a goal 14 minutes later, when Merson set him up, did not remove the suspicion that he is no more than an extra. By the time he scored his second 12 minutes from time, to complete a good move, Palace were a ragged bunch. They are a workmanlike side at the best of times and to be done over by a team of grinding efficiency does not offer much comfort.

CRYSTAL PALACE (4-4-2): N Martyn — J Humphrey, R Shaw, C Coleman, D Gordon — G Southgate, R Newman (sub: D Matthew, 70min), D Patterson (sub: B Dyer, 35), D Pitcher — C Armstrong, J Salako.

ARSENAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dixon, S Bould, A Linighan, N Winterburn (sub: S Morrow, 41) — E McGoldrick, S Schwarz, J Jensen, G Helder — P Merson, C Kiwomya.

Referee: K Morton.

Fortunate Ipswich sneak win with two gift goals

Ipswich Town 2
Southampton 1

By David Miller

GIFTS such as those presented to Ipswich by Bruce Grobbelaar could get a goalkeeper a bad reputation. You could be forgiven for thinking he was irresponsible. His Southampton colleagues, not to say Alan Ball, his manager, undoubtedly considered he was, as the saying goes, out to lunch.

The consequence was that Ipswich, having been played quietly out of the game for an hour and a quarter, suddenly found themselves with their first points in four matches, and a victory that lifts them off the bottom of the table, leaving Southampton embarrassingly close to the bottom four.

The taunting of the home crowd was predictably gleeful. A goalkeeper who has been accused of allegedly conceding goals deliberately — an allegation which Grobbelaar is legally disputing — can ill afford such conspicuous blunders as he now made in the space of five minutes, gratefully accepted by Mathie and then Chapman.

Of course, goalkeepers do suffer such aberrations, like any other player. A centre forward makes the same misjudgments, and everyone soon forgets. For a goalkeeper, it is as conspicuous as driving his car into the back of a stationary bus in the middle of the high street.

The match had, in effect, already been decided. Southampton led with Maddison's slightly lucky header shortly before half-time and should have been three or four in front. Ipswich's willing but all-too-pedestrian team had laboured in vain to hold quicker, more imaginative opponents for whom Le Tissier's contribution was no more than part-time.

Grobbelaar had kept the margin close, midway through the second half, with a couple of fine one-handed saves from Tanner and then Mathie, but Southampton kept coming forward, the doughty Sedgley unable to hold the middle line against the lively Maddison, Magilton, Heaney and Widdrington.

Then Grobbelaar, whose career has always oscillated between brilliance and the bizarre, suddenly suffered mental seizure. First, moving out to meet an innocent back-pass, he stubbed the ball with his weaker left foot straight to Mathie, who held off Monkou's challenge to put the ball low in the corner. Next, the goalkeeper hurtled out to meet a cross from Tanner with little chance, and was well beaten by Chapman's header from eight yards.

It was, indeed, a fortuitous escape for Ipswich, and their new manager, George Burley. You can always tell a team in trouble: the crowd cheers when, with a desperate tackle, a player finds touch, rugby fashion.

One victory encourages but does not rescue besieged Ipswich. Mathie, signed 48 hours beforehand from Newcastle's back benches, brought some zip to the right flank, and the mood of a serious hunt for the opposition's goal by a side that has scored only once or not at all in 25 of their 31 matches this season.

The club has, excessively, some 40 professionals, and no stars. The veteran Chapman, playing out time, is wooden-footed. I mistakenly thought Marshall, on the left of attack, must have had influenza until I discovered it was his first match, of any kind, since November.

It tends to be said that proper observation of the laws is most necessary to protect the best players of the great clubs. Reality, as in such a relegation encounter as this, shows how much more the lesser players are restricted by excessive physical licence given to defenders. There were minutes on end, it seemed, when no player could find a colleague with an accurate pass.

Southampton's goal was preceded by an amusing error by Le Tissier. Taking a corner, his foot caught the flag post, and the ball rolled a few inches. The crowd hooted its abuse. Le Tissier, being an orderly sort of fellow, resisted the temptation to plant his studs in somebody's chest.

IPSWICH TOWN (4-3-3): C Forrest — F Yallop, J Wark, D Linighan, N Thompson — A Tanner, S Sedgley, G Johnson — A Mathie, L Chapman (sub: A Paz, 89min), I Marshall (sub: L Norfolk, 45).

SOUTHAMPTON (4-3-3): B Grobbelaar — J Dodd, K Monkou, F Benali, J Kenna — J Magilton, T Widdrington (sub: D Hughes, 71), N Maddison — N Heaney (sub: P Tisdale, 81), M Le Tissier, N Shipperley.

Referee: P Jones.

0351 03 Ka[illegible]

Everton forward head and shoulders above Cole as striking differences exposed

United toppled by Ferguson's climb

Everton	1
Manchester United	0

By Rob Hughes
Football Correspondent

EVERTON'S win against Manchester United on Saturday demonstrated the basic tenet that football is, and always will be, a team game. Their strategy, their heart, was based on the tenacity with which Barry Horne, the Wales international, was willing to subdue what Joe Royle, the Everton manager, described as "the dogs of war", Ince and Keane.

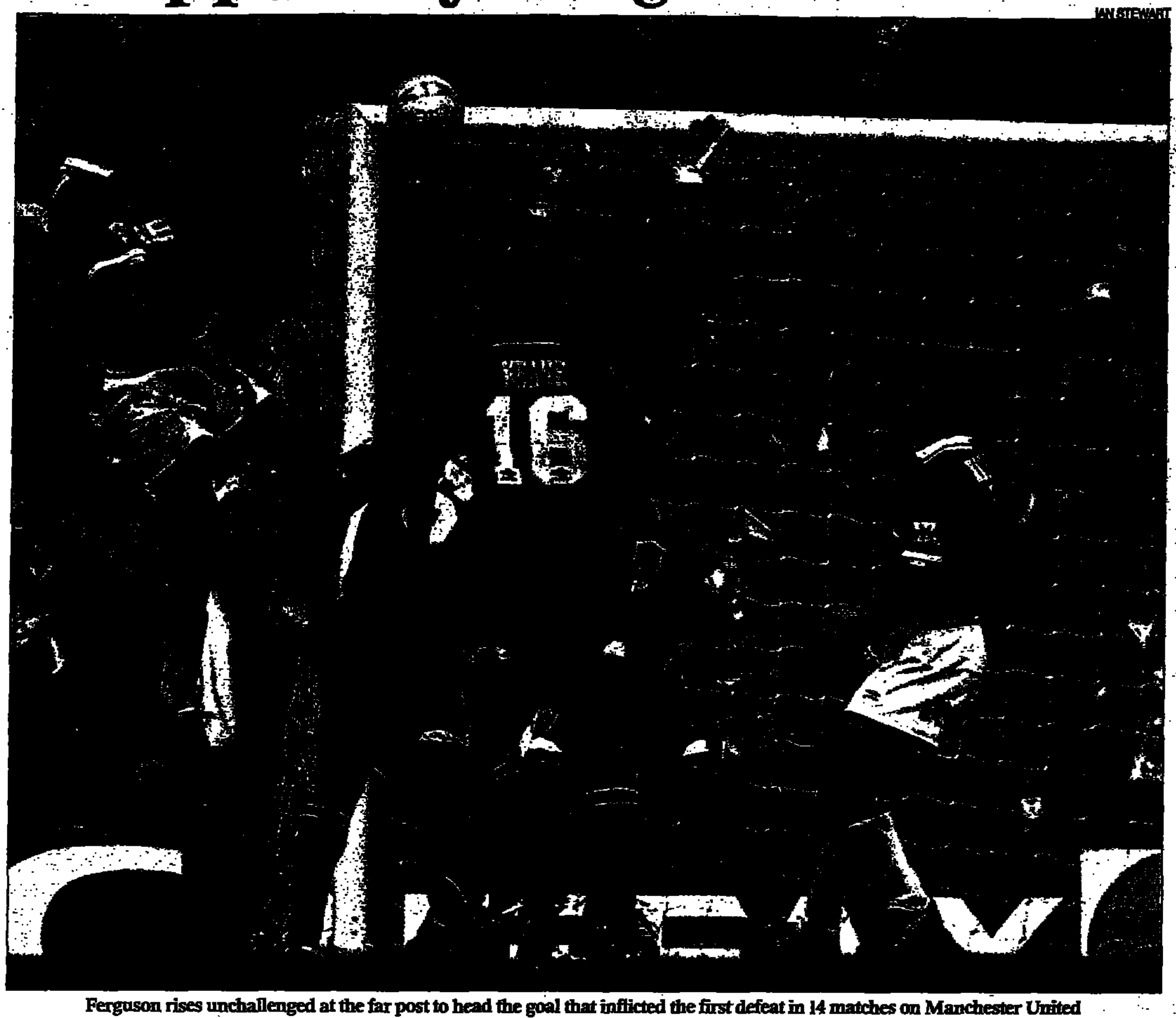
More than that, Everton hungered for survival in the FA Carling Premiership more than Manchester United aspired to a third consecutive title. The hunger, and the teamwork, was extended to the four corners of Goodison Park, crammed with more than 40,000 (greater than the Merseyside derby), supporters and playerswilling themselves in a frenzy. United, unbeaten anywhere away from home in five months, cracked under the pressure.

That said, there is another, apparently contradictory subplot to the team game. It is that strikers win matches. On that score, the headed goal after 58 minutes by Duncan Ferguson meant more than the contribution of the £7 million misfit, Andy Cole. Ferguson, raw, angular and idolised already on Merseyside, has eternally one foot in the mire of self-destruction that has removed Cantona from United's game.

Manchester United, when they could think of football last week, knew that Ferguson was the man to fear. Alex Ferguson, his namesake and countryman, thought he had prepared his men for the Scotland striker. Indeed, fully cognisant of the left foot of Hinchcliffe, the way that full back can whip the ball into the goalmouth with pace, swerve and mean intent, United had reminded themselves before the game and at half-time that the head of Everton's Ferguson must not be allowed the freedom of their goalmouth.

Thus, it was a goalmouth of the giants: Ferguson at 6ft 4in versus Pallister and Schmeichel at the same prodigious height. But, in that 58th minute, in a moment that could decide both the championship and one of the four relegation places, a Hinchcliffe corner was allowed to cross the face of the United goal, Pallister scarcely jumped and Ferguson helped himself in the air.

Andy Gray used to say that the Gwladys Street end sucked the ball into the net. They scarcely needed breath on this occasion, and Ferguson, for all his irresponsibility on both sides of the border, could indeed turn out to be what Royle claimed after the match: a bargain at £4 million.


IAN STEWART

Ferguson rises unchallenged at the far post to head the goal that inflicted the first defeat in 14 matches on Manchester United

The statement was mischievous. Royle knew, and Alex Ferguson conceded, that Manchester United had created more chances, clearer chances, but four instances of profligacy from the £7 million Cole, and two from Hughes, enabled Everton to continue the astonishing home record which, since Royle's appointment, reads played ten, won eight, drawn one, lost one.

Royle is still struggling with his inheritance. He has rejuvenated players like Horne and he used unsung performers, such as Barlow, on the right, and Parkinson, protecting the defence, to ultimate team effect on Saturday. But on his bench he, too, had millions of pounds-worth of wasting assets: Samways, eventually, came on to add a soothing touch of controlled passing once the heat of the fitful battle had subdued, yet even in the absence of the injured Rideout, there was nothing but a watching, forlorn brief for the forgotten £3 million Nigerian, Daniel Amokachi.

A pity this, for Goodison Park is still a ground that tolerates a pocket of racism — bananas were thrown at Ince.

He, combative to the point of dementia, was booked again, as was Ebbrell, and it took tackles of particular spite to arouse any action from the indulgent referee, Joe Worrall.

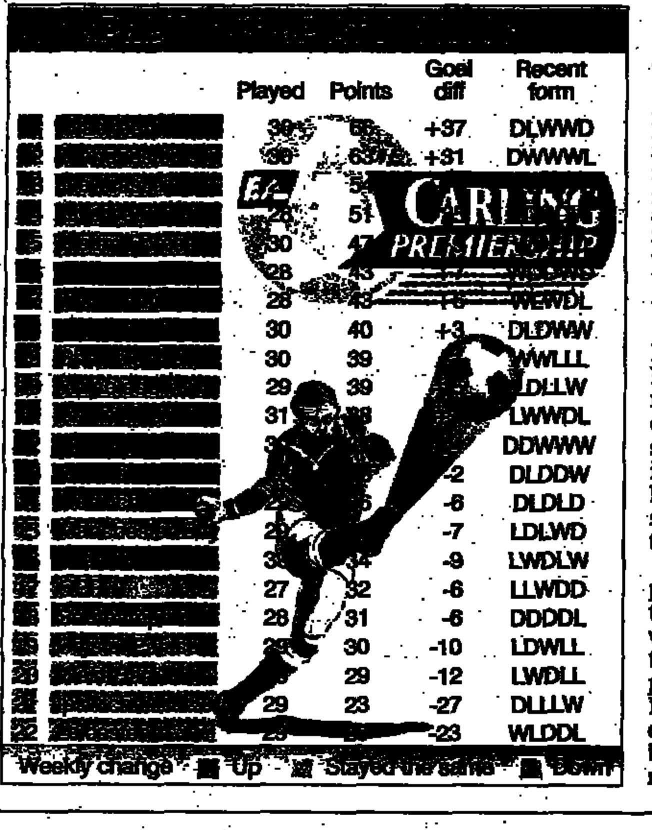
Yet spite did not rule this match. Nor did the rutted, bare surface hold the key to United's first defeat in 14 games. It was a potent combination of the sheer will of Everton to rise out of the bottom four, coupled with United's inability to cope with Ferguson.

While at one end Cole appeared anxious, snatching at his opportunities when his antennae had put him in a poacher's position, at the other Ferguson was extracting not only the points but the admiration of the rival managers. Alex Ferguson, having been reduced in the end to trying to replicate the effect by sending up Pallister as an attacker, said of the Everton forward: "He's a handful, a really mobile player for such a big lad."

Royle, surprised at the adulation that Ferguson already attracts, said: "For a big fellow, he jumps well. He's not just a lamppost there, he has touch and pace, and it's up to him what he will achieve in this game."

And what passed between the two team managers? Ferguson was seen to turn away when Royle shook his hand after the final whistle. "All I said was 'that's for last year!'" Royle said innocently. Last year, Royle had been denied a place at Wembley in the FA Cup final with Oldham Athletic by a last-minute equaliser from Hughes, of Manchester United.

EVERTON (4-1-4-1): N Southall — E Barrett, D Watson, D Unsworth, A Hinchcliffe — J Parkinson — S Barlow, B Horne, J Ebbrell (sub: V Samways, 71min), A Limpar — D Ferguson.
MANCHESTER UNITED (4-4-2): P Schmeichel — D Irwin, S Bruce, G Pallister, L Sharpe — R Keane, P Ince, B McClair (sub: A Kanchelskis, 66), R Giggs — M Hughes, A Cole.
Referee: J Worrall.


FA
CARLING
PREMIERSHIP

		Played	Points	Goal diff	Recent form
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	+37	DLWWD
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	63	+31	DWWWL
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	28	51	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	30	47	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	28	43	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	28	43	[illegible]	[illegible]
[illegible]	[illegible]	30	40	+3	DLDWW
[illegible]	[illegible]	30	39	[illegible]	WWLLL
[illegible]	[illegible]	29	39	[illegible]	LDLLW
[illegible]	[illegible]	31	[illegible]	[illegible]	LWWDL
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	DDWWW
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	-2	DLDDW
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	-6	DLDLD
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	-7	LDLWD
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	34	-9	LWDLW
[illegible]	[illegible]	27	32	-6	LLWDD
[illegible]	[illegible]	28	31	-6	DDDDL
[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	30	-10	LDWLL
20	[illegible]	[illegible]	29	-12	LWDLL
21	[illegible]	29	23	-27	DLLLW
22	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	-23	WLDDL

Weekly change ▨ Up ▨ Stayed the same ▨ Down

Collymore fails to fire on an unworthy pitch

Queens Park Rangers	1
Nottingham Forest	1

By Rob Hughes

WHEN the skies are perfect and spring-like, but the carpet beneath the players' feet is utterly worn, bumpy and deceitful as it was at Loftus Road yesterday, judging some of the most prodigious scoring talent in English football is an unfair exercise. Stan Collymore will, nevertheless, take quite a while to live down one particular howling error when, barely three yards from an open goal, he contrived to shoot over the crossbar. In contrast, Les Ferdinand, with his prodigious leaps and, when the instinct took hold, extraordinary athleticism, won a point for Queens Park Rangers, although even that was in the role of provider.

Indeed, for the most part, the meeting between Nottingham Forest, who are still edging towards Europe, and Rangers, who are striving for safety from relegation, despite having the cushion of games in hand,resembled little more than a Sunday afternoon stroll among the divots.

"It's not an excuse, but I was sorry for the supporters and for the television viewers that the pitch prevented the game from being a spectacle," Frank Clark, the Forest manager, said. "People talk about vision. Good players who have vision don't have to look down at their feet, but here you did because otherwise the ball would hit you in the shin."

The ball did plenty of that, even to exquisitely talented performers like Bryan Roy, for much of the afternoon, yet Impey, used on the left of midfield in place of the sorely-missed Sinclair, managed to light up Loftus Road with one honeyed run just before half-time and another in the second half. Poor Imprey was trying to inspire where bigger names had long given up the struggle at their feet.

After 58 minutes, when Forest finally broke the deadlock, their goal came not to the multi-million pound potential on view but to Steve Stone, a small and prematurely balding 23-year-old Geordie, who has overcome the traumas of suffering a broken leg three times.

His industry and optimism paid off with his third goal of the season. McDonald had woefully given the ball away to Collymore, who expertly picked out Roy, and after the Dutchman had drawn two defenders, Woan crossed the ball from an acute angle. By now, Collymore was tumbling back into the centre, but it was Stone who flung himself towards the ball, got inside the hesitant Wilson and headed the goal with force and precision.

Rangers, alternating their strategy and their shape, finally realised that the way to goal was in the air. There would have been no way back had Collymore not made his glaring miss after 71 minutes. Haaland had provided the through ball, Roy had turned on it with thrilling balance and then Collymore missed the unmissable. "It's easily done," a voice said on the radio — it was Gary Lineker, no less!

It seemed reasonable to assume that, for Rangers to save the day, Ferdinand and Gallen, their highly-regarded strikers, would have to make their mark. First Gallen, profiting from a delicate flick by Ferdinand, produced a stunning volley that Crossley palmed over the crossbar.

Ferdinand: athletic

Then Impey scooped the ball up from the left flank, Ferdinand met it with the full force of his forehead and Crossley saved with his knees — the benefit, as professional goalkeepers would explain, of "standing up".

However, Crossley was to fall three minutes from the end. Once again, there was a lofted cross from the left, this time by Wilson. Once again, the leaping power of Ferdinand was too good for Cooper, but, this time, Barker was present to use his own head and claim the equalising goal.

Perhaps it was just and perhaps it will save the FA Carling Premiership status of the London club. Without doubt, it was finished by one of the unsung.

QUEENS PARK RANGERS (4-4-2): A Roberts — S Yates (sub: G Penrice, 46min), D Maddix, A McDonald, C Wilson — M Meaker (sub: K Ready, 73), I Holloway, S Barker, A Impey — K Gallen, L Ferdinand.
NOTTINGHAM FOREST (4-4-2): M Crossley — D Lyttle, C Cooper, S Chettle, D Phillips — S Stone, A Haaland, L Bohinen, S Gemmill (sub: I Woan, 39) — B Roy, S Collymore.
Referee: P Danson.

New Den offers little cheer

Millwall	0
Middlesbrough	0

By Russell Kempson

COMPRESS 20 outfield players into a tight pocket, 15 yards either side of the halfway line, and the result can be little else than a hotchpotch of flailing arms, legs and bodies — no room to breathe, no space to manoeuvre — and so it was at the New Den yesterday, as Millwall and Middlesbrough produced a bland excuse of an Endsleigh Insurance League first division fixture.

Much had been expected, enough to draw the television cameras for live transmission. Middlesbrough, the early season pace-setters, were attempting to reignite their push for the FA Carling Premiership; Millwall, after lengthy exploits in both cups, were hoping to translate their knockout form into league points. Neither materialised and, on a sunny yet chill afternoon, the armchair viewers could feel smug at having made the best choice. Better to suffer in warmth and comfort than having to endure such banality at first hand.

"There was no quality on the pitch," Mick McCarthy, the Millwall manager, said, referring to the players rather than the surface. "Middlesbrough make it hard for you, they are tough to break down, and it was all too scrappy."

Bryan Robson, the Middlesbrough player-manager, was unable to offer his considered opinion. He made a premature departure with blood streaming from a gashed left eyebrow, which required 12 stitches, after accidentally colliding with Keller, the Millwall goalkeeper, six minutes from time. Mentally, he must have been hurt, too, as his team continues to stutter nervously as the Premiership prize looms. At least, with the 2-1 defeat of Bolton Wanderers at Derby, Middlesbrough stay in second place — three points behind Tranmere Rovers and with two games in hand.

The frantic scramble in midfield led to no more than a scruffy first-half muddle and the second half offered similar fare. In the 82nd minute, Witter almost handed Middlesbrough victory, but he headed Moore's cross into the ground and narrowly over his own crossbar on the first bounce. Anything, even an own goal, would have been better than nothing.

MILLWALL (4-4-2): K Keller — M Beard, D Webber, A Witter, B Thatcher — D Savage (sub: L McRobert, 79min), A Rae, A Roberts, J Van Blerk — J Beckford, D Oldfield.
MIDDLESBROUGH (4-4-1-1): A Miller — C Morris, N Pearson, S Vickers, D Whyte — C Blackmore, R Mustoe, B Robson (sub: P Wilkinson, 84), A Moore — J Pollock (sub: N Cox, 16) — U Fuchs.
Referee: C Wilkes.

Bolton fall at the Derby hurdle

Derby County	2
Bolton Wanderers	1

By Alyson Rudd

BOLTON Wanderers wasted an ideal opportunity to put Tranmere Rovers under pressure at the top of the Endsleigh Insurance League first division by succumbing to two goals in four minutes at the end of a match marred by controversy.

Bolton can create havoc among the best defences. After just 50 seconds yesterday it seemed they were in just that mood when Holt, making his debut in the Derby goal, could only parry Sneeks's shot and McAteer tapped in.

However, Bolton never fully recovered their composure after Coleman was taken off on a stretcher in the tenth minute. Bruce Rioch, the Bolton manager, ran on to the pitch after Gabbiadini had followed through on the central defender.

Rioch described the incident as "nasty" and said Derby should have been down to ten men as a consequence. Rioch also condemned the Derby supporters for cheering when a player was so clearly distressed: "It was disturbing and distasteful."

Roy McFarland, the Derby manager, refused to condemn Gabbiadini, who, he said, had swiped at the ball and caught Coleman's leg.

In the 35th minute of a stuttering first half, McAteer released Sneeks, but when a lob over the keeper was called for, he shot tamely at Holt.

After the interval there was more passion and commitment, and Derby kept Bolton at bay, thanks mainly to a fine defensive display by Short.

In the 82nd minute, Kavanagh's free kick was touched on by Simpson, leaving Yates a simple chance to equalise. Four minutes later Mills shrugged off Stubbs to fire a long-range winner past Davison.

DERBY COUNTY (4-4-2): R Holt — J Kavanagh, C Short, D Yates, S Nicholson — J Harkes, L Carsley (sub: D Wrack, 39min), P Trollope, P Simpson — M Gabbiadini, L Mills.
BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): A Davison — S Green, S Coleman (sub: M Patterson, 12), A Stubbs, J Phillips — D Lee, R Sneekes, J McAteer, A Thompson — M Paatelainen, J McGinlay (sub: F Defreitas, 75).
Referee: M Bailey.

Mann of principle striving to rebuild

Oxford United	1
Chester City	0

By Russell Kempson

AFTER a week dripping with FA Carling Premiership sleaze, in which the not so great and not so good paid the ultimate price, dwell a while on the lot of Derek Mann, youth coach, physiotherapist and caretaker manager of Chester City, the bottom club in the Endsleigh Insurance League second division.

Chester, with only three league wins and 17 points, the lowest in the league, are beating a hasty retreat to the third division whence they came with much style as runners-up last season.

Full results and tables .... Page 28

Mann uses telephone numbers to beg and borrow players from other clubs, not to count transfer fees or unsolicited gifts. Facts, cruel and simple, towards the bottom of the professional pyramid.

Yet Mann, 51, maintains a detached and dignified aura while Chester self-destruct amid the wreckage of three managers in six months, 17 matches without a victory and a spate of five sendings-off in three matches in eight days.

"There's a lot of pressure, a lot of hassle, but I'm enjoying it," Mann said. "I still look after the kids and do the physio work but, with everything else I've taken on, it's now 24 hours a day. As you're driving home, you are still thinking; when you wake up at night, you are still thinking. There's a lot more stress."

Mann, also back-up sponge-man at the Football Association's national school of excellence, has travelled a humble route from humble roots, as a player with Shrewsbury Town, director of coaching for the Shropshire FA and various posts at Shrewsbury, Watford, Huddersfield Town, Telford United and West Bromwich Albion.

At Chester, he faces his most taxing, most public test yet — picking up the pieces from Graham Barrow's resignation last July and Mike Pejic's dismissal last month.

Yet Mann retains his calm persona and sticks to his footballing principles, with Chester trying to play their way out of trouble despite the recent bout of red mist. "We are not thugs," he said. "Most of the sendings-off have been for hand-ball, double bookings or dissent, not horrible things."

At the Manor Ground on Saturday, though, it was the same story — all pain and no gain. Gilchrist's 52nd-minute header atoned for Moody's penalty miss, five minutes earlier, and edged Oxford United uneasily back into the promotion hunt.

"My biggest worry is that the heads will drop, that we are beaten before we go out there," Mann said. "We mustn't let that happen. If it does, at least Chester's exit and exile will be honourable."

OXFORD UNITED (4-4-2): L Key — L Robinson, M Elliott, P Gilchrist, A Dyer — D Smith, M Murphy, M Lewis, C Allen — D Rush, P Moody.
CHESTER CITY (4-4-2): D Felgate — I Jenkins, P Jackson, S Whelan, K Ratcliffe — D Flitcroft, R Preece, C Priest (sub: G Shelton, 76min), G Hackett — A Milner, S Rimmer (sub: J Burnham, 76).
Referee: P Vanes.

McStay out in the cold

At the 1992 European championship in Sweden, Paul McStay had the windows of his hotel room covered up so that he could take a nap in complete darkness at any time of the day. Three years later the midfield player must feel an even stronger desire to shut himself off from the outside world. When a man of McStay's standing is dropped by Celtic, supporters turn into rubbernecks.

People stare in a futile attempt to gauge the club captain's anger and embarrassment. Tommy Burns decided to leave McStay out of the team for the match with Hibernian a fortnight ago and the manager's exclusion order was still in force at the weekend when Celtic drew 1-1 with Heart of Midlothian at Tynecastle. For most players a spell in the doldrums is just one of the hazards of the profession, but McStay's case is different.

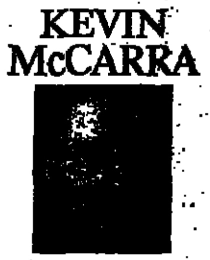
Apart from skills of a high order, it has always seemed that bloodline should guarantee him a place. Two of his great uncles played for Celtic and one, Willie, managed the club during the Second World War. Paul is heir to a great tradition and dropping him feels like a form of disinheritance. That legacy, coupled with the precocity of his teenage years, has, however, always been troublesome.

McStay, now 30, was the dominant force in Scotland schoolboy and youth teams whose other players were two years older than him. McStay has also been a distinguished adult and, with 71 caps, is the only player who could possibly overtake Kenny Dalglish's record of 102 appearances for Scotland. For Celtic, too, there have been long spells of sustained authority.

The sturdiness of the double-winning side in 1988 had its origins in the craft with which McStay built the play. He was just as inspiring four years later although, in a halting team, the excellence was unavailing. The events and decisions of that summer underlie all the wretchedness McStay is now experiencing. His contract was up and he appeared ready to move on.

After the last home match of the season in May, another defeat, McStay tossed his jersey into the "Jungle" enclosure, home of Celtic Park's fiercest denizens. Nobody supposed he would be requiring a replacement. McStay then carried an intense dedication with him to the European championship the following month. Blocking those hotel windows was one sign of a fanatical desire to avoid distractions.

KEVIN McCARRA



Scottish commentary

In the matches with Holland, Germany and the CIS (the former Soviet Union), McStay's pride drove him to prove himself the equal, for a week or two at least, of his illustrious counterparts on the Continent. Those performances on the field were also a sales pitch and he did catch the eye of some European clubs. Most, however, had already made their decisions about player purchases for the new season.

It seems that a move to Udinese, in Italy, was possible, but McStay eventually signed the lucrative contract offered by Celtic. The deal made him a wealthy man but it has also impoverished his career. His form, with occasional periods of remission, has been sickly ever since.

At his best McStay is a sublime passer of the ball, but has never been the kind of individualist who alone can determine the outcome of a match. A tendency to infuriatingly feckless shooting typifies him. There is less tolerance of that trait now McStay's playmaking has lost its edge.

Rumours of a move to Blackburn Rovers are implausible and it is likely that the struggle to reactivate himself will continue at Celtic. McStay, with the scar on his cheek incised by the boot of Nigel Spackman, can look weary of football and all the damage it brings. The hurt was never greater than when he missed the decisive penalty in the shoot-out that decided the Coca-Cola Cup final with Raith Rovers this season.

McStay's decision, as captain, not to take the first kick has been portrayed as a failure of manhood. This is preposterous, since the penalty he did elect to take carried far more pressure. The sixth, after all, is the first of the sudden death phase. McStay might also point out that atrocious finishing and inept goalkeeping in the match shaped Celtic's fiasco far more than the hazards of the shoot-out.

He would, however, be incapable of pardoning himself in that manner. It is that very sense of responsibility for Celtic that has weighed him down. There are some emotions so intense that they will exhaust us if we live with them for too long.

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP

BLACKBURN RVRS (0) 0 **NORWICH CITY** (0) 0
25,579

Blackburn Rovers: T Flowers, T Sherwood, C Hendry, G Le Saux, S Ripley, A Shearer, M Newell, J Wilcox, H Berg, M Atkins (sub: *P Warhurst, 73min*), I Pearce.
Booked: Sherwood, Shearer, Warhurst.
Norwich City: A Marshall, M Bowen, J Newsome, N Adams (sub: D Sutch, 20), A Ward, M Milligan (sub: J Cureton, 76), J Polston, C Bradshaw, A Johnson, D Eadie, M Sheron.
Booked: Newsome, Bowen, Ward, Sutch, *Johnson*.
Referee: M Reed.

COVENTRY CITY (2) 4 **LEICESTER CITY** (0) 2
Flynn 18, 76 — *Lowe 64*
Marsh 27 — Roberts 74
Ndlovu 87 — 20,633

Coventry City: S Ogrizovic, B Borrows, S Morgan, A *Pickering*, D Rennie, K Richardson, M Marsh, S Flynn, P Cook, P Ndlovu, D Dublin.
Leicester City: K Poole, S Grayson, N Lewis, C Hill, J Willis, *M Draper*, D Lowe, G Parker, *M Galloway*, M Robins, I Roberts.
Referee: R B Gifford.

CRYSTAL PALACE (0) 0 **ARSENAL** (2) 3
17,092 — Merson 24
Kiwomya 39, 77

Crystal Palace: N Martyn, J Humphrey, D Gordon, R Shaw, D Coleman, D Pitcher, D Patterson (sub: B Dyer, 34min), G Southgate, R Newman (sub: D Matthew, 70), C Armstrong, J Salako.
Booked: Martyn, Gordon, Southgate.
Arsenal: D Seaman, L Dixon, N Winterburn (sub: S Morrow, 40), A Linighan, S Bould, S Schwarz, J Jensen, E McGoldrick, C Kiwomya, P Merson, G Helder.
Booked: Schwarz, *Kiwomya*.
Referee: K M Morton.

EVERTON (0) 1 ***MANCHESTER UTD*** (0) 0
Ferguson 58 — 40,011

Everton: N Southall, E Barrett, D Watson, D Unsworth, A Hinchcliffe, J Ebbrell (sub: V Samways, 71min), B Horne, J Parkinson, A Limpar, D Ferguson, S Barlow.
Booked: Ebbrell.
Manchester United: P Schmeichel, D Irwin, S Bruce, G Pallister, L Sharpe, P Ince, R Keane, B McClair (sub: A Kanchelskis, 66), R Giggs, A Cole, M Hughes.
Booked: Ince.
Referee: J Worrall.

IPSWICH TOWN (0) 2 **SOUTHAMPTON** (1) 1
Mathie 70 — Maddison 38
Chapman 77 — 16,076

Ipswich Town: C Forrest, F Yallop, J Wark, D Linighan, N Thompson, G Johnson, A Tanner, S Sedgley, I Marshall (sub: *Norfolk, 45min*), A Mathie, L Chapman (sub: A Paz, 87).
Booked: Linighan.
Southampton: B Grobbelaar, J Kenna, J Dodd, T Widdrington (sub: D Hughes, 71), K Monkou, F Benali, M Le Tissier, *J Magilton, N Maddison, N Heaney (sub: P Tisdale, 81)*, N Shipperley.
Booked: Benali, Shipperley.
Referee: P Jones.

MANCHESTER CITY (0) 0 **LEEDS** (0) 0
22,892

Manchester City: *A Coton, A Hill, T Phelan, M Gaudino*, K Curle, M Vonk, N Quinn, I Brightwell, A Kernaghan, N Summerbee, F Simpson.
Leeds United: J Lukic, G Kelly, A Dorigo, C Palmer, D *Wetherall*, N Worthington, D White, P Masinga, A Yeboah (sub: B Deane, 75min), G McAllister, G Speed.
Referee: T J Holbrook.

NEWCASTLE UTD (1) 3 ***ASTON VILLA*** (1) 1
Venison 31 — Townsend 40
Beardsley 55, 66 — 34,637

Newcastle United: P Srnicek, M Hottiger, J Beresford, B Venison, *D Peacock, S Howey, R Lee, P Beardsley*, P Kitson, R Fox, K Gillespie.
Booked: Howey.
Aston Villa: M Bosnich, G Charles, S Staunton, S Teale (sub: *D Atkinson, 84min*), P McGrath, U Ehiogu, D Yorke, D Saunders, I *Taylor*, T Johnson, A Townsend.
Referee: P Don.

SHEFFIELD WED (1) 1 **LIVERPOOL** (1) 2
Bart-Williams 14 — Barnes 42
31,964 — McManaman 59

Sheffield Wednesday: K Pressman, P Atherton, I Nolan, D Petrescu (sub: G Watson, 74min), C Waddle (sub: J Sheridan, 45), *M Bright*, C Bart-Williams, A Sinton, G Hyde, D Walker, G Whittingham.
Booked: Petrescu, Bart-Williams.

Liverpool: D James, R Jones, P Babb, J Barnes, M Walters (sub: *D Matteo, 81*), *J Scales, J Redknapp*, M Thomas, S McManaman, S Bjornebye, R Fowler.
Booked: McManaman, Fowler.
Referee: D Elleray.

TOTTENHAM (0) 1 **WIMBLEDON** (1) 2
Klinsmann 49 — *Ekoku 39, 64*
27,258

Tottenham Hotspur: I Walker, J Edinburgh, G Popescu (sub: R Rosenthal, 39min), C Calderwood, G Mabbutt, N Barmby, D *Anderton*, E *Sheringham*, *D Howells, J Klinsmann*, S Campbell (sub: D Austin, 39).
Wimbledon: H Segers, W Barton, *R Earle*, E Ekoku, A Reeves, A Kimble, M Gayle, C Perry, P Fear, A Thorn, K *Cunningham*.
Referee: D J Gallagher.

WEST HAM UTD (1) 1 **CHELSEA** (0) 2
Hutchison 11 — *Burley 67*
21,500 — Stein 75

West Ham United: L Miklosko, M Rieper, T Breacker, S Potts, J Dicks, M Allen, J Moncur, A Cottee, D Hutchison, T *Morley*, I *Bishop*.
Booked: Breacker, Allen.
Chelsea: *D Kharine* (sub: *K Hitchcock, 81min*), S Clarke, D Lee, E Johnsen, S Minto, D Rocastle (sub: P Furlong, 57), E *Newton*, G Peacock, C Burley, J Spencer, M Stein.
Booked: Johnsen, Newton.
Referee: G Ashby.

Yesterday

QPR (0) 1 ***NOTTM FOREST*** (0) 1
Barker 87 — Stone 57
13,363

Queens Park Rangers: A Roberts, S Yates (sub: G Penrice, 45min), C Wilson, D Maddix, A McDonald, A Impey, I Holloway, S Barker, L Ferdinand, K Gallen, M Meaker (sub: K Ready, 73)
Booked: Holloway.
Nottingham Forest: M Crossley, D Lyttle, B Roy, C Cooper, S Chettle, D Phillips, S Gemmill (sub: I Woan, 30), S Collymore, S Stone, L Bohinen, A Haaland.
Referee: P Danson.

Klinsmann: scored for Tottenham

GOALSCORERS

	Lge	Cup	Euro	Total
Shearer (Blackburn)	26	2	1	29
Fowler (Liverpool)	21	4	0	25
Ward (Norwich) (17 for Crewe)	14	9	0	23
Le Tissier (Southampton)	13	9	0	22
Klinsmann (Tottenham)	14	7	0	21
Sutton (Blackburn)	14	5	1	20
Wright (Arsenal)	13	3	4	20
Saunders (Aston Villa)	15	2	0	17
Cole (Man Utd) (15 for Newcastle)	11	2	4	17
Ferdinand (QPR)	13	2	0	15

EUROPEAN OPPOSITION

AS THE Cup Winners' Cup goes into its quarter-final stages this week, the two opponents that face the last English representatives could not be more contrasting. Chelsea's opposition, Bruges, of Belgium, have a long history of domestic triumphs and are no strangers to all three cup competitions in Europe. However, Arsenal's opponents, Auxerre of France, are a relatively new force in French football, having won their first domestic competition, the French Cup, last year.

They have appeared in the Uefa Cup seven times but have met only one English club to date, Liverpool, in 1991-92, when they lost 3-2 on aggregate.

Bruges have met seven English clubs in Europe and have lost to five, including Chelsea, whom they met in *1970-71*, also in the third round of this competition. The Belgians took a 2-0 lead to Stamford Bridge, where they lost 4-0. The Chelsea defence will have to be alert since Bruges are the leading scorers in their league with [illegible] goals.

Bruges

CURRENT FORM: 3rd in league P21 W13 D4 L4 Cup: 6th rnd
LEADING SCORERS: 12 Gert Verheyen, 11 Lorenzo Staelens, 9 Sven Vermant.
DOMESTIC HONOURS. League winners on nine occasions. Cup winners on five occasions.
EUROPEAN BEST: Uefa Cup runners-up 1975-76, losing to Liverpool 4-3 on aggregate. European Cup runners-up 1977-78, losing 1-0 to Liverpool. Cup Winners' Cup semi-finalists 1991-92, losing 2-1 to Werder Bremen.
CUP WINNERS CUP 1994-95: Round 1: 6-2 on agg v [illegible] Rovers (scorers: Vermant, Verheyen, Staelens 2, [illegible]) Round 2, 1-0 on agg v Panathinaikos (Staelens).

Auxerre

CURRENT FORM: 5th in league, 41 pts, P26 W9 D14 [illegible]
LEADING SCORERS: 11 Lilian Laslandes
DOMESTIC HONOURS: Cup Winners 1994
EUROPEAN BEST: Uefa Cup semi-finalists 1992-93, losing on penalties to Borussia Dortmund, drawing 2-2 on aggregate.
CUP WINNERS CUP 1994-95: Round 1 4-3 on agg v Croatia Zagreb (Diomede 2, Marie, Lamouchi). Round 2 4-2 on agg v Besiktas (Saib, Martins, Lamouchi 2).

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Blackburn	30	13	2	1	44	15	7	4	3	19	11	66	+37
2 Man Utd	30	12	1	1	27	3	7	5	4	26	19	63	+31
3 Newcastle	29	10	5	0	33	13	5	4	5	17	18	54	+19
4 Liverpool	28	8	5	1	25	7	6	4	4	23	16	51	+25
5 Nottm For	30	7	4	3	22	14	6	4	6	20	19	47	+9
6 Leeds	28	8	4	2	21	11	3	6	5	14	17	43	+7
7 Tottenham	28	6	3	5	23	20	6	4	4	23	20	43	+6
8 Arsenal	30	4	7	4	17	16	6	3	6	18	16	40	+3
9 Sheff Wed	30	5	6	5	20	17	5	3	6	19	23	39	-1
10 Wimbledon	29	7	2	4	18	17	4	4	8	17	33	39	-15
11 Aston Villa	31	5	7	3	24	16	4	4	8	22	29	38	+1
12 Coventry	30	6	5	5	18	20	3	5	8	15	27	37	-14
13 Chelsea	28	4	5	5	20	15	5	4	5	17	24	36	-2
14 Norwich	29	7	5	3	21	16	2	4	8	6	17	36	-6
15 Man City	29	6	6	4	29	20	3	3	7	8	24	36	-7
16 Everton	30	7	5	3	24	17	1	5	9	6	22	34	-9
17 QPR	27	6	3	4	24	19	2	5	7	16	27	32	-6
18 Soton	28	4	5	4	18	18	2	8	5	22	28	31	-6
19 C Palace	29	3	4	8	9	18	4	5	5	12	13	30	-10
20 West Ham	29	6	3	6	17	16	2	2	10	10	23	29	-12
21 Ipswich	29	4	2	9	21	28	2	3	9	10	30	23	-27
22 Leicester	29	3	4	6	16	19	1	4	11	15	35	20	-23

Endsleigh Insurance League

FIRST DIVISION

BRISTOL CITY (0) 2 **LUTON TOWN** (1) 2
Owers 65 — Oakes 23, 54
Bent 85 — *7,939*

NOTTS COUNTY (0) 1 **READING** (0) 0
Agana 82 — 7,183

OLDHAM ATH (2) 3 **SHEFFIELD UTD** (2) 3
Banger 5, 64 — Rogers 7
Ritchie 23 — Blake 11
9,640 — *Flo 82*

PORT VALE (1) 2 **WOLVERHAMPTON** (3) 4
Naylor 18 — De Wolf 2, 42, (pen) 68
Kent 56 — Bull 45
13,676

PORTSMOUTH (1) 2 **GRIMSBY TOWN** (1) 1
Creaney 43 — Rodger 44
Symons 89 — 8,274

SOUTHEND UNITED (0) 0 **SUNDERLAND** (1) 1
4,686 — Agnew 44

SWINDON TOWN (0) 0 **BARNSLEY** (0) 0
8,156

TRANMERE ROVERS (1) 4 **BURNLEY** (0) 1
Muir 16, 79 — Garnett (og) 90
Nevin 48 — 9,909
Aldridge 90

WEST BROMWICH (1) 1 **STOKE CITY** (1) 3
Hamilton 24 — Scott 34
16,591 — Peschisolido 65, 80

Postponed: Watford v Charlton

Yesterday

DERBY COUNTY (0) 2 **BOLTON WDRS** (1) 1
Yates 82 — McAteer 1
Mills 85 — 11,003

MILLWALL (0) 0 **MIDDLESBROUGH** (0) 0
7,247

SECOND DIVISION

BIRMINGHAM C (1) 5 **WREXHAM** (2) 2
France 24, 49 — Bennett 12, 27
Shearer 46 — 18,684
Otto 51
Donowa 80

BLACKPOOL (1) 2 **ROTHERHAM UTD** (1) 2
Mitchell 21 — Dawson 44
Ellis 45 — Goater 54
5,043

BOURNEMOUTH (2) 2 **HULL CITY** (3) 3
Jones 11 — Ormondroyd 8, 20
Pennock 27 — Mann 38
4,345

BRADFORD CITY (0) 1 **CAMBRIDGE UTD** (0) 1
Jewell 90 — *Jeffrey 90*
6,075

BRIGHTON (0) 0 **HUDDERSFIELD** (0) 0
7,751

CREWE ALEXANDRA (2) 2 **BRISTOL ROVERS** (0) 1
Adebola 31 — Miller 73
Murphy 45 — 4,222

OXFORD UNITED (0) 1 **CHESTER CITY** (0) 0
Gilchrist 52 — 4,930

PETERBOROUGH (1) 2 ***CARDIFF CITY*** (1) 1
Charlery 30, 88 — Dale 2
4,226

PLYMOUTH ARGYLE (0) 1 **LEYTON ORIENT** (0) 0
Landon 72 — 5,173

SHREWSBURY (1) 2 **BRENTFORD** (1) 1
Spink 34 — *Forster 39*
Lynch 50 — 4,570

STOCKPORT CO (1) 2 **YORK CITY** (2) 3
Armstrong 5 — Baker 37
Gannon 87 — Pepper 43
3,570 — Dinning (og) 88

SWANSEA CITY (0) 1 ***WYCOMBE WDRS*** (0) 1
Torpey 89 — De Souza 68
3,699

THIRD DIVISION

BURY CITY (1) 4 **COLCHESTER UTD** (0) 1
Stant 32 — Fry 77
Hughes 47 — 2,484
Betts (og) 57
Lucketti 68

DARLINGTON (0) 0 **CARLISLE** (1) 2
3,992 — Thomas 7
Reeves 87

DONCASTER R (0) 0 **ROCHDALE** (1) 1
2,246 — Sharpe 44

FULHAM (3) 4 **BARNET** (0) 0
Cusack 7 — 6,195
Marshall 14
Morgan 44
Hamill 79

HARTLEPOOL (1) 2 **EXETER CITY** (1) 2
Houchen 2 — Cecere 11
McGuckin 82 — *Thirlby 79*
1,440

MANSFIELD TOWN (1) 4 ***GILLINGHAM*** (0) 0
Holland 12 — 3,182
Ireland 58
Parkin 77
Wilkinson 89

NORTHAMPTON (1) 3 **LINCOLN CITY** (0) 1
Brown (og) 33 — Greenall 82
Grayson 55 — 4,821
Aldridge 68

SCARBOROUGH (0) 0 **WIGAN ATHLETIC** (1) 1
1,416 — Lyons 38

SCUNTHORPE UTD (1) 1 **HEREFORD UTD** (0) 0
Nicholson 22 — 2,193

TORQUAY UTD (1) 3 **CHESTERFIELD** (1) 3
Hathaway 5, 55 — Lormor 1
Darby 85 — Davies 60, 70
3,236

Postponed: Walsall v Preston North End.

SENDINGS OFF

First division: Williams (Reading) 85.
Second division: Robinson (Chester City) 89
Third division: *Putney (Colchester United) 42.*

GOALSCORERS

First division: 23 Fjortoft (Swindon). 20 Aldridge (Tranmere). 18 Whyte (Charlton). 17 Creaney (Portsmouth). 16 Malkin (Tranmere); Kelly (Wolverhampton). 15 Hendrie (Middlesbrough); McGinlay (Bolton).
Second division: 35 Bennett (Wrexham). 22 Forster (Brentford); Booth (Huddersfield); Stewart (Bristol Rovers). 20 Goater (Rotherham).
Third division: 19 Reeves (Carlisle). 18 Wilkinson (Mansfield). 17 Freedman (Barnet). 16 Lightbourne (Walsall).

Scottish Premier: 17 Coyne (Motherwell). 14 Hateley (Rangers). 12 O'Neill (Hibernian); Robertson (Hearts). 11 *Jackson* (Hibernian); Laudrup (Rangers).
First division: *21 O'Boyle (St Johnstone)*; Petrie (Dunfermline). 18 Smith (Airdrie). 17 Britton (Dundee). 16 Dalziel (Raith); Duffield (Hamilton).
Second division: 13 Scott (East Fife); Hawke (Berwick). 12 Mooney (Dumbarton). Lilley (Greenock Morton).
Third division: 24 Yardley (Cowdenbeath). 17 *Kennedy (Montrose). 14 McGlashan (Montrose).*

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

ABERDEEN (0) 0 **MOTHERWELL** (1) 2
8,500 — Burns 4
McKinnon 83

DUNDEE UTD (0) 2 **PARTICK THISTLE** (0) 0
Brewster 47 — *7,227*
Sergio 90

FALKIRK (0) 1 **HIBERNIAN** (0) 0
Kirk 82 — 7,500

HEARTS (0) 1 **CELTIC** (0) 1
Jamieson 89 — O'Donnell 53
11,185

RANGERS (0) 3 **KILMARNOCK** (0) 0
Durie 64 — 44,859
Laudrup (pen) 62
Durrant (pen) 89

FIRST DIVISION

AYR UNITED (0) 1 **DUNFERMLINE** (1) 2
McCathie (og) 89 — Ward 40
2,183 — Smith 79

HAMILTON (0) 0 **CLYDEBANK** (0) 1
1,017 — Sherry (og) 81

RAITH ROVERS (0) 0 ***DUNDEE*** (0) 0
5,385

ST JOHNSTONE (1) 3 **STRANRAER** (0) 0
Tosh 8 — 2,725
O'Boyle 63
Wright 77

ST MIRREN (0) 0 **AIRDRIE** (0) 1
2,564 — Smith 61

SECOND DIVISION

BERWICK RANGERS (0) 0 **EAST FIFE** (3) 0
503

BRECHIN (0) 0 **DUMBARTON** (0) 0
430

CLYDE (1) 4 **MEADOWBANK** (0) 1
Thomson 15 — Young 87
Nisbet 53 — 730
O'Neill 65
McCarron 80

G MORTON (1) 1 **STENHOUSEMUIR** (0) 0
Pasemaa 45 — 2,754

STIRLING ALBION (0) 1 ***QUEEN OF SOUTH*** (1) 1
McInnes 90 — Campbell 45
541

THIRD DIVISION

ARBROATH (2) 4 **MONTROSE** (1) 1
Tosh 28 — McAvoy 22
Gardner 43 — 985
Scott 51, 58

CALEY THIS (1) 3 **EAST STIRLING** (1) 3
Christie 7, 70 — Dwyer 25
McKenzie 55 — Lee 65
640 — Geraghty 75

COWDENBEATH (1) 1 **ALLOA** (2) 3
Winter 36 — Diver 3
260 — *Moffat 5*
Bennett 89

FORFAR ATH (3) 4 **ALBION** (0) 0
Bingham 4, — 510
Ross 24
Hannigan 33
Morgan 84

QUEEN'S PARK (1) 1 **ROSS COUNTY** (0) 2
McGoldrick 43 — Grant (pen) 50
803 — Williamson 89

SENDINGS OFF

Premier division: Sneiders (Aberdeen) 82: Dinnie (Partick Thistle) 84.
First division: McCaffrey (Stranraer) 42.
Second division: Robinson (Berwick Rangers) 40.
Third division: Souter (Cowdenbeath) 56.

CONFERENCE

BATH CITY (1) 1 **BROMSGROVE** (0) 1
Birkby 10 — Shilvock 74
587

DAG and RED (4) 5 **SOUTHPORT** (0) 1
Haag 2, 5 — Haw 57
Conner 35, 49 — *1,059*
Shipp 40

FARNBOROUGH (0) 0 **STALYBRIDGE** (0) 0
657

HALIFAX TOWN (2) 2 **MERTHYR TYDFIL** (1) 2
Hanson 6 — Webley 24, 89
Kiwomya (pen) 25 — 910

KIDDERMINSTER (0) 0 **STEVENAGE BOR** (1) 3
1,847 — Lynch 35
Nugent 54
Fortune-West 84

MACCLESFIELD (0) 4 **ALTRINCHAM** (1) 2
Power 48, 86 — *Morton 21*
Howarth 58 — Butler 88
Macdonald 72 — 2,386

NORTHWICH VIC (2) 3 **KETTERING TOWN** (1) 2
Cook 1 — *Stringfellow 11*
Holden (og) 15 — Holden 77
Williams 82 — 880

RUNCORN (2) 3 **STAFFORD RAN** (1) 1
Thomas 1 — *Mardenborough 32*
Anderson 4 — 537
Bates 59

WELLING UTD (1) 1 **TELFORD UTD** (0) 0
Robbins 15 — 762

Postponed: Dover Athletic v Woking; Yeovil Town v Gateshead

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt
1 Macclesfield	29	13	3	2	36	13	7	2	2	22	12	65
2 Altrincham	29	8	1	7	29	22	7	4	2	33	17	50
3 Southport	32	9	2	4	38	18	6	3	8	15	26	50
4 Gateshead	31	9	3	4	22	10	5	3	7	22	30	48
5 Halifax	27	9	4	1	37	12	4	4	5	16	22	47
6 Kidderminster	32	6	4	6	23	18	7	4	5	30	28	47
7 Woking	27	6	5	2	29	18	7	2	5	20	22	46
8 Kettering	30	9	3	3	27	16	4	3	8	18	21	45
9 Bromsgrove	32	7	5	3	32	26	5	3	9	19	27	44
10 Farnborough	31	6	4	4	14	15	6	3	8	16	27	43
11 Northwich	28	5	6	4	27	21	5	5	3	24	18	41
12 Stevenage	28	6	2	6	27	21	6	2	6	18	15	40
13 Runcorn	31	8	5	2	29	21	3	2	11	17	37	40
14 Bath	31	6	4	5	27	25	4	4	8	19	28	38
15 Stalybridge	31	6	1	5	22	20	2	6	9	20	35	37
16 Dag & Red	32	5	4	7	21	27	4	5	7	19	27	36
17 Telford	27	8	5	1	21	11	1	3	9	11	24	35
18 Welling	29	8	2	7	23	27	4	3	7	21	29	35
19 Merthyr	27	7	3	5	28	22	1	4	7	12	25	31
20 Dover	28	3	8	2	15	12	3	4	8	13	24	30
21 Yeovil	29	4	3	7	18	13	2	5	8	14	30	25
22 Stafford	31	2	3	9	19	25	3	6	8	20	39	24

Yeovil deducted 1 point

Mostoe, left, of Middlesbrough, attempts to dispossess Beard during the 0-0 draw at the New Den yesterday. Report, page 27. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

EUROPEAN

BELGIAN LEAGUE: Royal Antwerp 1 [illegible] Postponed: FC Bruges [illegible]

DUTCH LEAGUE: Twente Enschede [illegible] Roda [illegible] Feyenoord [illegible] Postponed [illegible] Ajax played [illegible] PSV Eindhoven [illegible] Twente Enschede [illegible] Feyenoord [illegible]

FRENCH LEAGUE: Le Havre 3 Lens 3; Lille [illegible] Auxerre [illegible] Cannes [illegible] Caen 4 Strasbourg [illegible] Bordeaux 2 Sochaux [illegible] Rennes [illegible] AS Monaco 3 [illegible] Postponed: [illegible] Nantes played [illegible] Paris Saint-Germain 27 [illegible] Lyons 28 [illegible]

GERMAN LEAGUE: Bayer Uerdingen 4 [illegible] Hamburg [illegible] Dynamo Dresden [illegible] Bochum [illegible] Kaiserslautern [illegible] Borussia Dortmund [illegible] Cologne [illegible] Bayer Leverkusen [illegible] Werder Bremen [illegible] Bayern Munich [illegible] SC Freiburg 2 [illegible] Stuttgart [illegible]

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
B Dortmund	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Werder Bremen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Freiburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Kaiserslautern	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Bayern Munich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
M'gladbach	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SC Karlsruhe	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
B Leverkusen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
VfB Stuttgart	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
SV Hamburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Schalke 04	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
E Frankfurt	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
FC Cologne	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
B Uerdingen	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
1860 Munich	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
D Dresden	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
MSV Duisburg	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
VfL Bochum	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

GREEK LEAGUE: Panathinaikos [illegible] Panionios [illegible] AEK Athens [illegible] Olympiakos 2 [illegible] Edessa 2 [illegible] Doxa Dramas [illegible]

ITALIAN LEAGUE: Bari [illegible] Padova [illegible] Brescia [illegible] Cagliari [illegible] Fiorentina 2 Internazionale 2; AC Milan [illegible] Cremonese [illegible] Napoli [illegible] Genoa [illegible] Parma 2 Lazio [illegible] AS Roma 2 Reggiana [illegible] Torino 2 Foggia [illegible] Postponed: [illegible] Juventus played 22 [illegible] Parma 21 [illegible] AS Roma 21 [illegible] AC Milan 21 [illegible]

PORTUGUESE LEAGUE: União Leiria 0 FC Porto 2; [illegible] Sporting Braga [illegible] Vitória Guimarães [illegible] Benfica [illegible] Maritimo [illegible] União Madeira 0 [illegible] Salgueiros [illegible] Estrela Amadora [illegible] Postponed: [illegible] FC Porto, played 22 [illegible] Sporting Lisbon 21 [illegible] Benfica 22, 35

SPANISH LEAGUE: Compostela 1 Barcelona 2; Real Zaragoza 1 Real Valladolid 0; Sporting Gijon 1 Real Betis 1

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Tranmere	33	14	2	1	42	17	3	6	7	12	19	59	54
2 *Middlesbro*	31	10	2	3	25	11	6	6	4	19	15	56	44
3 Bolton	32	12	3	1	35	11	3	6	7	18	24	54	53
4 Sheff Utd	33	9	5	2	27	12	5	6	6	29	26	53	56
5 Wolves	31	11	2	3	31	15	5	3	7	25	28	53	56
6 Reading	33	7	6	3	18	11	8	2	7	19	18	53	37
7 Grimsby	33	9	5	2	30	14	3	7	7	20	28	48	50
8 Watford	31	8	6	2	21	12	4	5	6	14	17	47	35
9 Barnsley	31	10	4	2	30	15	3	3	9	11	24	46	41
10 Luton	32	5	3	7	22	20	7	5	5	23	25	44	45
11 Oldham	32	8	6	2	27	16	3	4	9	18	27	43	45
12 Derby	31	7	5	3	22	13	4	4	8	15	20	42	37
13 Millwall	30	7	6	2	24	14	3	5	7	13	22	41	37
14 Portsmouth	32	6	5	5	21	20	4	5	7	16	26	40	37
15 Stoke	30	6	4	4	21	13	4	6	6	11	22	40	32
16 Charlton	31	6	4	6	24	21	4	5	6	19	28	39	43
17 Sunderland	32	2	10	4	16	17	6	5	5	16	14	39	32
18 Port Vale	30	8	3	5	23	16	2	5	7	14	22	38	37
19 West Brom	33	9	2	5	18	15	1	5	11	11	27	37	29
20 Southend	33	8	2	7	18	19	2	4	10	14	41	36	32
21 Bristol C	33	6	6	5	21	23	3	2	11	11	22	35	32
22 Swindon	30	6	6	4	21	21	2	3	9	15	28	33	36
23 Notts Co	33	5	6	6	20	20	2	2	12	16	28	29	36
24 Burnley	30	3	5	6	19	21	3	4	8	10	27	27	29

SECOND DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 *Brentford*	32	10	2	4	34	12	8	3	5	28	18	59	62
2 Birmingham	30	10	4	1	39	12	7	4	4	20	13	59	59
3 Huddersfld	32	10	3	2	30	15	6	8	3	26	20	59	56
4 Crewe	31	11	1	4	34	21	7	3	5	25	28	58	59
5 Blackpool	33	11	2	4	37	24	5	4	7	18	27	54	55
6 Wycombe	30	8	5	1	21	10	7	4	5	22	23	54	43
7 Oxford Utd	31	9	3	3	19	14	6	4	6	28	24	52	47
8 Bradford	32	7	5	5	24	22	7	3	5	23	23	50	47
9 Hull	30	9	3	4	31	15	5	4	5	19	25	49	50
10 York	30	8	2	4	26	14	6	3	7	21	20	47	47
11 Bristol R	28	8	5	0	32	14	4	6	5	14	13	47	46
12 Wrexham	30	8	4	3	32	19	4	6	5	20	24	46	52
13 Stockport	31	8	2	7	28	22	5	3	6	17	19	44	45
14 Swansea	30	5	7	3	14	10	5	6	4	23	22	43	37
15 Shrewsbury	32	7	6	4	28	22	3	3	9	16	21	39	44
16 Peterboro	31	4	7	5	20	26	5	4	6	20	30	38	40
17 Rotherham	31	8	4	3	27	19	1	6	9	14	24	37	41
18 Brighton	31	5	7	4	15	12	3	4	8	17	27	35	32
19 Cambridge	32	6	6	4	27	22	1	6	9	14	33	33	41
20 Plymouth	31	4	3	8	14	27	4	2	10	18	36	29	32
21 Bournemth	33	4	3	10	18	33	3	4	9	15	28	28	33
22 Cardiff	31	3	4	8	15	18	3	2	11	16	35	24	31
23 L Orient	31	5	5	5	16	13	0	1	15	8	36	21	24
24 Chester	33	3	4	9	18	35	0	4	13	9	30	17	27

THIRD DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Gls
1 Carlisle	30	10	4	0	24	6	10	4	2	27	12	68	51
2 Chesterfield	30	9	4	2	18	6	7	4	4	25	23	56	43
3 Mansfield	30	8	2	5	31	17	7	2	6	30	23	49	61
4 Walsall	25	10	1	2	27	11	4	6	2	17	13	49	44
5 Doncaster	30	8	4	4	24	12	5	4	5	14	12	47	38
6 *Fulham*	30	7	5	4	30	19	4	7	3	13	17	45	43
7 Bury	25	8	5	1	22	9	5	1	5	14	10	45	36
8 Scunthorpe	30	8	2	6	30	20	5	3	6	19	20	44	49
9 Colchester	30	5	5	5	19	22	7	3	5	20	22	44	39
10 Preston	29	9	1	4	22	11	4	4	7	14	18	44	36
11 Torquay	29	7	6	2	27	20	3	3	8	13	20	39	40
12 Barnet	28	5	4	4	22	16	6	2	7	11	24	39	33
13 Lincoln	29	8	4	2	23	12	2	3	10	11	23	37	34
14 Rochdale	29	6	3	5	18	17	4	4	7	16	32	37	34
15 Wigan	29	3	4	6	18	22	7	2	7	24	25	36	42
16 Darlington	29	6	3	7	21	21	4	3	6	14	18	36	35
17 Hereford	31	6	3	6	13	15	2	4	10	20	37	31	33
18 Exeter	28	5	3	5	18	22	3	3	9	7	22	30	25
19 Northamptn	30	5	3	7	16	19	1	7	7	15	25	28	31
20 Gillingham	29	5	4	4	17	13	2	2	12	13	32	27	30
21 Hartlepool	28	5	3	7	19	26	1	5	7	8	18	26	27
22 Scarboro	28	1	5	8	14	24	3	2	9	15	27	19	29

NON-LEAGUE AND NATIONAL LEAGUES

UNIBOND

Premier division: Accrington Stanley 1 Guiseley 4; Barrow 2 Winsford 1, Bishop Auckland 0 Hyde 2; Boston 6 Knowsley 1; Chorley 0 *Matlock 1*; Droylsden 2 Frickley 1, Emley 1 Colwyn Bay 0; Gainsborough 1 *Witton 0*; *Marine 2* Whitley Bay 0. Spennymoor 1 Morecambe 3.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Marine	33	23	8	2	64	22	77
Morecambe	31	21	6	4	71	28	69
Guiseley	30	20	7	3	70	39	67
Boston Utd	31	15	8	8	60	32	53
Gainsboro	32	14	9	9	57	43	51
Hyde	29	14	6	9	52	41	48
Spennymoor	29	13	6	10	44	39	45
Witton	32	11	12	9	41	41	45
B Auckland	29	13	5	11	49	36	44
Barrow	30	14	2	14	49	49	44
Buxton	31	12	6	13	45	46	42
Colwyn Bay	28	12	4	12	57	56	40
Emley	30	10	9	11	46	51	39
Chorley	32	10	6	16	51	66	36
Winsford	32	9	8	15	48	55	35
Knowsley	30	8	9	13	48	58	33
A Stanley	30	7	9	14	33	60	30
Matlock	27	9	2	16	32	48	29
Horwich	33	8	4	21	43	64	28
Frickley	30	6	9	15	39	58	27
Whitley Bay	34	6	8	20	41	74	26
Droylsden	29	7	5	17	38	72	26

First division: Bamber Bridge 2 Radcliffe 1; Caernarfon 2 Gt Harwood 2; Curzon Ashton 2 Congleton 3; Eastwood Town 3 Fleetwood 0; *Farsley Celtic 1 Lancaster 3; Goole* 1 Atherton L R 3; Gretna 2 Worksop 2; Harrogate Town 2 Ashton 3; Mossley 0 Alfreton 0; Warrington 1 Blyth Spartans 1. Postponed: Workington v Netherfield.

BEAZER HOMES

Premier division: Cambridge City 4 Sittingbourne 1; Cheltenham 2 Solihull 0; Corby 2 Worcester 1; Dorchester 2 *Atherstone 3; Gravesend and Northfleet 0* Burton 1; Halesowen 5 Sudbury 1; Hednesford 2 Crawley 1; Leek 1 Hastings 0; Rushden and Diamonds 0 Gresley 1. Postponed: Chelmsford v Gloucester; VS *Rugby v Trowbridge*.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hednesford	28	20	6	2	68	29	66
Gloucester	28	18	4	6	58	27	58
Cheltenham	26	17	5	4	60	24	56
Dorchester	25	14	4	7	54	36	46
Rushden D	26	13	6	7	63	39	45
Gresley R	27	13	5	9	52	45	44
Burton	28	12	8	8	38	31	44
Leek Town	28	12	7	7	49	36	43
Cambridge C	27	12	5	10	41	41	41
Halesowen	29	10	9	10	59	51	39
Worcester	28	10	8	10	30	27	38
Gravesend N	26	8	9	9	22	29	33
Solihull	29	6	12	11	29	45	30
Chelmsford	23	8	5	10	35	33	29
Hastings	25	7	8	10	28	31	29
Sudbury Town	26	7	6	13	34	54	27
Sittingbourne	29	7	6	16	30	53	27
VS Rugby	26	6	8	12	27	42	26
Crawley Town	27	7	5	15	36	56	26
Atherstone	28	5	9	14	29	52	24
Trowbridge	26	4	9	13	27	43	21
Corby Town	27	3	6	18	25	71	15

Midland division: Armitage 1 *Leicester 5*; Bridgnorth 4 Grantham 0; Buckingham Town 0 *Hinckley Town 0*; Ilkeston 3 Dudley 1; Moor Green 3 Rothwell 1, Nuneaton 3 RC Warwick 1; Stourbridge 2 Evesham 1; Tamworth 2 King's Lynn 1. Postponed: Newport AFC v Bilston; Redditch v Forest Green; *Sutton Coldfield v Bedworth*. Southern division: Baldock 3 Newport IOW 0; Bashley 5 Fisher 93 1; Margate 1 Havant 4; Salisbury 1 Weymouth 1; Tonbridge 3 Wealdstone 4; Witney 0 Waterlooville 1; Yate 4 Fareham 0. Postponed: Ashford v Weston-super-Mare; Braintree v Burnham, Bury v Clevedon; Erith and Belvedere v Poole

DIADORA

Premier division: Bishop's Stortford 0 Walton and Hersham 2; Enfield 3 Bromley 1; Kingstonian 2 Aylesbury 0; Molesey 1 *Purfleet 2, Wokingham 1* Hitchin 3, Yeading 1 Hayes 1. Postponed: Chesham v Marlow; Harrow v Carshalton; Hendon v Grays. St Albans v Dulwich; Sutton v Slough

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Hayes	27	16	8	3	44	23	56
Enfield	27	14	8	5	58	33	50
Slough	24	12	8	4	48	33	44
Bromley	27	12	7	8	48	42	43
Dulwich	28	12	7	9	49	45	43
Carshalton	28	13	4	11	48	49	43
Aylesbury	22	13	3	6	46	24	42
Harrow	27	12	4	11	43	41	40
St Albans	23	11	6	6	66	51	39
Walton H	27	10	8	9	56	47	38
Purfleet	28	10	8	10	56	60	38
Yeading	26	9	10	7	45	42	37
Kingstonian	27	10	6	11	44	43	36
Grays	28	8	11	9	38	41	35
Molesey	26	8	6	11	39	39	33
Hitchin	24	7	9	8	38	42	30
B Stortford	29	7	9	13	39	61	30
Hendon	26	7	7	12	33	44	28
Sutton Utd	26	7	6	13	38	42	27
Chesham	25	6	6	13	39	52	24
Marlow	26	3	8	15	28	57	17
Wokingham	25	4	3	18	27	59	15

First division: Aldershot 3 Chertsey 2; Maidenhead 1 Billericay 1; Ruislip Manor 9 Dorking 2; Staines 3 Wivenhoe 0. Tooting and Mitcham 0 Basingstoke 2; Uxbridge 1 Barking 4; Wembley 2 Whyteleafe 0. Postponed: Boreham Wood v Bognor Regis; *Heybridge Swifts v Abingdon; Leyton v Worthing*; Newbury v Berkhamsted. Second division:; Chalfont St Peter 0 Edgware 1, Croydon 3 Hampton 0, Saffron Walden 2 Leatherhead 2; Thame 5 Witham 2. Postponed: *Aveley v Hungerford*; Banstead v Cheshunt; Barton v Hemel Hempstead; Maiden Vale v Windsor and Eton; Tilbury v Bracknell. Third division: Camberley 5 Southall 1; Feltham and *Hounslow 2 Harefield 1; Harlow 0 Epsom* and Ewell 1; Horsham 3 Hertford 1; Leighton 1 Kingsbury 1; Lewes 2 East Thurrock 3; Northwood 1 Collier Row 2. Tring 2 Clapton 1. Postponed: Cove v *Flackwell Heath*; Hornchurch v Bedford

FA VASE: Sixth round: Arlesey 3 Cammell *Laird 0; Metropolitan Police 0 Belper 1.* Postponed: Basildon v Raunds.

NORTHERN COUNTIES EAST LEAGUE: Premier division: Armthorpe Welfare 0 Ossett Town 0; Denaby 1 Pickering 0; Glasshoughton Welfare 0 Stocksbridge 1; Hucknall 1 Brigg 1, Lincoln 5 North Ferriby 2: *Liversedge 0 Thackley 1; Ossett Albion 2* Hallam 0; Pontefract Colliery 1 Ashfield 2; Sheffield 2 Arnold 2.

GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Barnstaple 1 Chippenham 1; Frome 0 Odd Down 1: Taunton 2 Torrington 0; Tiverton 2 Bideford 0; Westbury 2 Bridport 1. Postponed: *Calne v Elmore; Crediton v Paulton.*

CARLING NORTH WEST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Chadderton 1 Rossendale 2; Clitheroe 6 Nantwich 3; Bradford Park Avenue 1 Darwen 2; Maine Road 0 *Blackpool Rovers 3*; Newcastle 4 Holker Old Boys 2; Penrith 1 Burscough 2; *Salford 3 Prescot 1; Skelmersdale 1 Bootle* 1; Glossop North End 3 Kidsgrove 2. *Postponed*: Eastwood Hanley v Bacup; St Helens v Trafford.

FEDERATION BREWERY NORTHERN LEAGUE: First division: Billingham Synthonia 1 Hebburn 2; Dunston FB 2 *Peterlee 2, Durham 2 Consett 1; Eppleton* CW 1 Tow Law 5; Northallerton 0 Chester Le Street 3; Prudhoe 1 Murton 1; Shildon 0 Bedlington 2; Whitby 7 Ferryhill 0. Seaham Red Star 2 RTM Newcastle 2.

SOUTH EAST COUNTIES LEAGUE: First division: Arsenal 0 Charlton 1: Chelsea 4 Southend 2: Fulham 2 Norwich 2; Portsmouth 2 Leyton Orient 2; Watford 2 QPR 1.

Postponed: Gillingham v Tottenham; Ipswich v Millwall; West Ham v Cambridge Utd. Second division: Colchester 1 Luton 2 Wycombe 0 Brentford 1. Postponed: *Brighton v Wimbledon*; Crystal Palace; Bristol City, Reading v Bristol Rovers Tottenham v Swindon

AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Arsenal 4 Luton 1

ESSEX SENIOR FOOTBALL LEAGUE: Premier division: Burnham Ramblers 3 Bowers 1. Postponed: Concord v Brentwood, Eton Manor v Southend Manor, Great Wakering v East Ham, Maldon v Stansted.

HELLENIC LEAGUE: Premier division: Abingdon 6 Kintbury 2. Almondsbury 1 *Carterton 0; Cinderford 2 Tuffley 0.* Highworth 0 Cirencester 2. Postponed: Bicester v Banbury; Brackley v Pegasus Juniors, North Leigh v Shortwood.

HEREWARD SPORTS: Challenge cup: *Third round replay: Great Shelford 4* Comberton 3. United Counties League: First division: British Timken 0 Shambrook 2; Cottingham 5 Harrowby 1; O N Chenecks 2 Ford Sports 0; St Neots 4 Thrapston 2: Whitworths 5 Silsworth 0. Postponed: Burton P W v Irchester; Northampton Vanaid v Olney, Ramsey v Bugbrooke; St Ives v Daventry

INTERLINK EXPRESS MIDLAND ALLIANCE: *Pershore 1 Paget 3; Shepshed 0* Oldbury 2. Postponed: Knypersley Vic v Shifnal; Rushall O v Barwell; West Midlands Police v Willenhall. Industrial re-wind cup: Quarter-finals: Hinckley 3 Boldmere Swifts 2; Rocester 2 Sandwell 3, Stratford 5 Boldmere St M 3.

JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Totton 0 Brockenhurst 2, Andover 8 Ryde Sports 1; Bemerton Heath *4 Petersfield 1; Bournemouth 3 Gosport 0;* Christchurch 2 Aerostructures 0; Portsmouth RN 1 Cowes Sports 2; Swanage and Herston 0 AFC Lymington 5, Wimborne 3 Eastleigh 1. Postponed: Downton v Horndean; East Cowes Vics v BAT; Thatcham v Fleet.

PARASOL COMBINED COUNTIES LEAGUE: Premier division: Ash 3 Chipstead 2, Cobham A 1 Farnham 1; Peppard 1 DCA Basingstoke 2; Sandhurst 3 Netherne 2. Postponed: Ashford v Eton Wick; Bedfont v Horley; Hartley Wintney v Merstham, Viking Sports v Cranleigh; Westfield v Godalming and Guildford.

SKOL MIDLAND FOOTBALL COMBINATION: First division: Badsey 1 Southam 4, Bilston Community College 5 Colletts Green 3, Heme Hall 0 Kenilworth 3; Jaguar-Daimler 4 Sphinx 2; Kings Norton Ex-Service 4 Barlestone St Giles 2; Polesworth 6 Thimblemill REC 1. Postponed: Monica *Star v Wilmcote*

UNIJET SUSSEX COUNTY LEAGUE: First division:; Peacehaven/Telscombe 3 Burgess Hill 0; Southwick 0 Crowborough 3; Whitehawk 4 Littlehampton 0; Wick 2 *Langney Sports 0*. Postponed: Hailsham v Portfield, Oakwood v Eastbourne; Ringmer v Shoreham; Stamco v Newhaven.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE: First division:; Canterbury 1 Slade Green 3; Crockenhill 2 Whitstable 1; Darenth Heathside 1 Chatham 6; Deal 2 Corinthian *2, Faversham 1 Dartford 1; Folkestone* Invicta 0 Sheppey 1; Furness 4 Tunbridge Wells 1; *Ramsgate 5 Greenwich 0*. Postponed: Beckenham v Herne Bay; Cray v Thamesmead.

MINERVA SOUTH MIDLANDS LEAGUE: Premier division: Dunstable 1 Brache Sparta 5, Potters Bar 2 Letchworth GC 1; Royston 3 Hatfield 1; Wingate and Finchley 1 *Harpenden 1*. Postponed: Hoddesdon v Biggleswade, Langford v Shillington.

LONDON SPARTAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Willesden 2 Brook House 2. Postponed: Barkingside v Brimsdown; *Cockfosters v St Margaretsbury*; Hanwell v Walthamstow; Haringey v Amersham; Hillingdon v Beaconsfield; Waltham Abbey v Croydon.

OLD BOYS LEAGUE: Premier division: [illegible] 1 [illegible] 2. Postponed: Clapham [illegible] Senior first division: [illegible] 4 [illegible] 3 [illegible] 4 [illegible] 2. Postponed: [illegible] Senior second division: [illegible] 4 [illegible] 3 [illegible] 2 [illegible] 1 [illegible] 3 [illegible] 1. Postponed: [illegible] Senior cup: [illegible] 2 [illegible]

SOUTHERN OLYMPIAN LEAGUE: Senior First: Southgate County 3 Mill Hill Village 2. *Postponed: Wandsworth v Old Grammarians; Witan v Old Owens.* Senior Second: Honourable Artillery Company 0 Hadley 2; *Old Fairlopians 1 UCL Academicals 2.*

SOUTHERN AMATEUR LEAGUE: First division: *Midland Bank 1 Old Latymerians* 5; NatWest Bank 1 Crouch End Vampires 1; Old Esthameians 2 West Wickham 1; Kew Association 1 Polytechnic 1; Old Westminster 2 Lloyds Bank 3; Carshalton 1 Old Bromleians 4; Barclays Bank 4 Southgate Olympic 2, Cuaco 2 Bank of England 1. Postponed: Civil Service v East Barnet OG; Alexandra Park v Old Stationers, Broomfield v Old Parkonians, Alleyn OB v Old Salesians, Ibis v Old Lyonians; *Merton* v Reigate Priory

ARTHURIAN LEAGUE: Premier division: Wellingburians 0 Lancing 1. First division: Haileyburians 1 Westminsters 1.

WOMEN'S UNIVERSITY MATCH: Oxford University 2 Cambridge University 0.

NATIONAL

KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Aberystwyth 4 Ebbw Vale 1; Afan Lido 2 Cwmbran 1. Llanelli 3 Barry 2; Rhyl 0 Bangor City 1; Ton Pentre 1 Holywell 1. Postponed: Caersws v Inter Cardiff; Flint v Connah's Quay; Llansantffraid v Porthmadog; Newtown v Conwy.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Bangor C	25	21	2	2	68	17	65
Cwmbran	26	14	2	10	46	37	44
Afan Lido	22	13	5	4	35	27	44
Ton Pentre	22	13	4	5	48	28	43
Newtown	24	12	6	6	56	32	42
I Cardiff	24	11	7	6	44	28	40
Rhyl	27	12	4	11	53	46	40
Llans'fraid	24	12	3	9	45	36	39
Conwy	26	11	5	10	41	40	38
Connah's Q	25	10	6	9	42	38	36
Flint Town	24	11	2	11	48	44	35
Barry Town	24	8	9	7	45	42	33
Holywell	23	8	8	7	39	37	32
Caersws	25	8	7	10	41	42	31
Mold	27	9	2	16	42	62	29
Ebbw Vale	24	8	4	12	33	40	28
Porthmadog	26	7	5	14	40	47	26
Aberystwyth	25	3	11	11	37	52	20
Llanelli	27	4	5	18	45	89	17
Maesteg P	24	1	5	18	15	77	8

SMIRNOFF IRISH LEAGUE: Ballyclare 2 Newry 3; Bangor 0 Linfield 0, Carrick 0 Glenavon 5; Coleraine 2 Ards 2; Glentoran 2 Cliftonville 3; Larne 2 Ballymena 3, Omagh *2 Distillery 3*; Portadown 0 Crusaders 1.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pt
Crusaders	21	17	3	1	45	15	54
Glenavon	22	12	5	5	49	29	41
Linfield	22	10	6	6	40	22	36
Cliftville	21	10	6	5	33	23	36
Portadown	21	11	2	8	45	29	35
Coleraine	22	8	11	3	41	29	35
Distillery	21	9	5	7	37	34	32
Ards	21	9	4	8	39	37	31
Glentoran	21	8	6	7	37	33	30
Carrick	22	7	6	9	40	55	27
Bangor	21	5	10	6	28	26	25
Omagh Town	21	5	10	6	26	25	25
Ballymena	21	6	5	10	31	40	23
Ballyclare	22	4	3	15	25	50	15
Newry	20	2	5	13	21	51	11
Larne	21	2	3	16	14	53	9

POOLS CHECK

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
1½	1½	1½	2½	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	2½	1½	[illegible]	[illegible]

33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58
1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	1½	3	1½	1½	1½	2	1½	1½	2	2	1½	1½	3	1½	2½	1½	1½	1½

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FORECAST: Telephone claims for 22½pts; dividend forecast is very good. There were 5 jackpot draws, 5 score draws and 4 *no-score draws*.

BELL'S LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP

PREMIER DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Rangers	26	9	3	1	22	6	7	3	3	24	15	54	+25
2 Motherwell	25	5	5	3	20	17	5	4	3	18	19	39	+2
3 Hibernian	26	7	5	1	30	14	1	8	4	6	12	37	+10
4 Celtic	26	4	7	2	16	14	2	9	2	11	10	34	+3
5 Hearts	26	7	4	2	21	9	2	2	9	12	27	33	-3
6 Dundee Utd	25	6	5	2	22	13	2	3	7	10	24	32	-5
7 Falkirk	26	5	3	5	17	19	2	6	5	15	19	30	-6
8 Kilmarnock	26	6	3	3	16	10	1	6	7	15	27	30	-6
9 Aberdeen	25	5	6	3	20	14	1	3	8	10	20	27	-4
10 Partick	24	2	5	4	13	15	3	2	8	10	24	22	-16

FIRST DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 *Dunfermline*	26	9	1	2	27	7	5	7	2	23	19	50	+25
2 Dundee	26	8	3	2	26	12	6	3	4	18	15	48	+17
3 Raith	26	7	6	1	24	15	6	3	3	18	11	48	+16
4 Airdrie	26	5	6	2	18	8	6	2	3	23	16	47	+17
5 St Johnstn	26	8	4	1	30	10	3	6	4	15	18	43	+17
6 Hamilton	26	7	2	4	19	15	2	4	7	7	20	33	+7
7 Clydebank	26	3	4	6	14	16	3	5	5	9	15	27	-9
8 Ayr	26	4	5	5	18	21	0	3	9	5	25	20	-8
9 St Mirren	26	3	4	6	12	15	0	6	7	8	25	19	-20
10 Stranraer	26	3	4	5	12	16	1	0	13	9	36	16	-29

SECOND DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Stenhsmuir	24	5	6	1	14	8	6	3	3	16	12	42	+10
2 G Morton	24	8	3	1	20	7	4	2	6	12	14	41	+11
3 Dumbarton	25	8	3	2	29	12	3	4	5	10	15	40	+12
4 Berwick	24	8	3	1	16	8	3	2	7	21	26	38	+3
5 Clyde	25	5	4	4	26	19	5	3	4	17	15	37	+10
6 Stirling	24	5	2	5	17	14	5	2	5	15	17	34	+1
7 East Fife	24	6	1	5	25	19	3	5	4	10	18	33	-2
8 Queen of S	25	3	3	6	17	18	4	5	4	14	18	29	-5
9 Meadowbnk	24	4	2	5	11	10	3	2	8	16	27	22	-10
10 Brechin	25	3	2	8	12	21	2	1	9	5	25	16	-29

Meadowbank deducted 3 points

THIRD DIVISION

	P	HOME W	D	L	F	A	AWAY W	D	L	F	A	Pt	Goal diff
1 Forfar	24	9	2	0	24	7	6	2	5	14	15	49	+16
2 Ross Co	25	6	1	5	26	18	7	4	2	18	9	44	+17
3 Alloa	25	5	3	5	15	16	7	3	2	23	18	42	+4
4 Montrose	22	6	3	3	22	13	5	3	2	18	11	39	+16
5 East Stirling	22	5	1	5	18	15	6	3	2	23	16	37	+10
6 Cowdenbth	24	3	4	4	16	18	7	1	5	21	14	35	+5
7 Caley This	25	3	6	3	20	25	5	2	6	16	20	32	-9
8 Queen's Pk	25	4	2	7	15	21	2	3	7	16	24	23	-14
9 Arbroath	25	2	3	8	10	19	4	1	7	20	27	22	-16
10 Albion	23	2	0	10	11	24	1	3	7	7	23	12	-29

'The Boat Race is a test of nerve and courage of Everest proportions'

Creating unity from pieces of eight

Williams, the Cambridge coach, supervises training on the River Ouse at Ely. He hopes to engineer a repeat of the victory of last year. Photograph: Ian Stewart

David Miller examines the stresses and strains oarsmen and coaches undergo in the build-up to a unique sporting contest

THE OXFORD & CAMBRIDGE SPONSORED BY BEEFEATER GIN BOAT RACE

To suggest that rowing is no more than repetitively shifting a blade-full of water is about as accurate as saying that a sculptor merely chips away the marble he does not want. Rowing at its peak is as refined as a mantel clock.

For those rowing in the Boat Race, supposedly one of the year's social events, the occasion is no more social than running a marathon, and as emotionally serious, for seven months beforehand, as getting married.

We all understand the complexity of skill of a Matthew Le Tissier or a Steve Davis because we have all tried to kick a football at some time or other or to sink the black over the length of the snooker table. Rowing is, physically, an utter contradiction: threading a needle with sledgehammer force. Some 600 times in the Boat Race.

The race won last year by Cambridge — according to pundits, one of the most outstanding crews of all time — ranked eighteenth among the year's largest sporting television audiences. Yet not one viewer in 10,000 would have had the slightest conception of the technical triumph being enacted by both crews.

So fine is the margin among eight huge oxen, and their tame parrot calling the shots from the stern, that, when the two crews are announced today for the race on April 1, the respective coaches will be delighted if, during the six months of training so far, their boat has touched perfection even once for a dozen strokes.

Consider, for instance, one fact. Say you are Laird Reed, the 25-year-old American in the engine-room of the Oxford boat, a politics and economics postgraduate from Princeton, a former world junior eights gold medal-winner and 1992 Olympic trialist, 6ft 4in and 15 stone. If you apply your immense power a fraction too soon as your blade enters the water, you will kick your boat *backwards*.

"The start of the stroke, at the moment of entry, needs the greatest dexterity," Robin Williams, the Cambridge chief coach, said. "And relaxation. There is this daunting contradiction: at the moment of maximum stress, you need the maximum relaxation, if the boat is to have rhythm and synchronisation."

Such is the stress on individual oarsmen that the months of training are necessary to refine details until they become second nature. A week ago, Williams reports, the Cambridge boat showed flashes of 1994 form, and certainly something superior to 1993, when Oxford's almost humiliating run of ten successive victories was finally ended. "If all goes well, we could be looking as good as last year in a month's time," he said, cautiously.

Cambridge's recent victories were greeted by Oxford with the sort of incredulity that some Battle of Britain veterans reserved for the RAF's first qualified woman Tornado pilot. It drove Oxford to summon Dan Topolski, the coaching guru who presided over their years of glory.

He came reluctantly. Topolski rowed for Oxford in 1967 and 1968, represented Great Britain in the European championships the following year, and won a lightweight eight world championship gold medal in 1977. He was Oxford's chief coach from 1972 to 1987, by which time he was no longer enjoying it.

"Our system was falling into disrepair," Topolski said. "The first loss came in spite of having two Olympic gold medalists in the boat, including Jonny Searle. There was no foundation below the peak of the pyramid. Isis, our second crew, had won only once since 1987, and I was asked to supervise the reconstruction, on a three-year part-time contract."

He finds it, nonetheless, difficult not to get sucked in, so absorbing is the ambiance. The Boat Race, he rightly says, is a unique event not just in rowing but in the world of sport. "One race. One opponent. Maybe one chance in a rowing career. No heats, no subsequent regattas for revenge, no medals for second place. An immensely difficult, tidal course. An endurance test over nearly five miles, not two kilometres. So public, such hype. Terrifying. Often raced in conditions where world championships would be abandoned. We race until we sink. A test of nerve and courage of Everest proportions."

Topolski dwells on the complexity of the attempt to achieve unison to which Williams refers: the fact that "timing" is less with colleagues in the boat than effort in the water, where there is a relatively long "gate" within which the power can be delivered, early or late. It is possible to be out of time with colleagues yet still in time.

More than anything, however, Topolski has tried to give the Oxford squad an understanding of selection procedure. Of seat-racing, the performance measurement of individuals acquired by swapping one oarsman at a time between two competing four-oar boats, which was abandoned last year; of acclimatising them to Tideway conditions, winds and bends and rough water, by sending them out in sculls.

"As the stress of the event mounts, with the approach of race day," Topolski said, "you have to reduce the information input." Ultimately, as in all sports, refinement is as much mental as technical.

This perception is echoed by Richard Phelps, president (skipper in colloquial terms) of the Cambridge boat, and a member of the Britain Olympic and world championship eight for the past three years. "In the first couple of months of training, you reach 98 per cent of your boat potential," he said. "It takes the next four months to find the other two per cent."

It should again be a formidable Cambridge crew including, as it does, besides Phelps at No 4, Roger Taylor at bow and Matthew Parish at No 2 from last year's British eight: Dirk Bangert, of Germany, from the 1993 crew, and Marko Banovic at No 7, from last year's Croatian coxless pairs that finished fifth in the world championship.

Rowing is, outstandingly, the one Oxbridge sport that has fully kept pace with world standards. In the eight years since Beefeater became the race sponsors, 11 Boat Race oarsmen have been in winning crews at Henley; 12 have represented Great Britain; 15 have represented their country at the Olympic Games; and 29 have appeared in world championships. So unique is the race and its hold upon an international public that last year there were 250 million television viewers in 160 nations.

The practice on the Tideway yesterday between Cambridge and a powerful Dutch crew would seem to have determined the place at cox in favour of Russell Slatford, the Hughes Hall postgraduate controversially discarded shortly before the race last year. His rival, Mark Davies, from Christ's, the son of Barry Davies, the BBC television commentator, yesterday steered the Dutch but Cambridge's confident performance meant that a side-by-side duel, which would have tested their nerve, did not materialise.

Davies, who steered the Goldie crew to victory in 1992, has perhaps more Tideway experience than Slatford, whose composure under stress was last year doubted at the last minute, even though he had demonstrated his quality during training at Ely. Cambridge are intent on avoiding any uncertainty this year. Last night the two men were anxiously awaiting the call that would say they were in today's selection.

Cambridge start well

CAMBRIDGE could not be accused of picking easy opposition for their first Tideway fixture yesterday when they took on, and beat convincingly, a crew from Nereus, Holland (Mike Rosewell writes). The Nereus crew included the Dutch coxed four that won bronze at the 1994 world championships and Krijtenburg, the stroke of Holland's eight that won silver.

With five of the Dutch crew weighing more than 14 stone, Robin Williams, the new Cambridge coach, had trouble finding a boat big enough for his weekend guests.

The Cambridge crew on show the day before the Official Boat Race Crew Announcement and Challenge was also not without its stars: it included five present internationals — three Britons, one New Zealander and one Croatian.

The crews did two half-course rows. In the first, from Putney to Chiswick Steps, Cambridge, on Middlesex, went off at slightly the higher rate, moved steadily ahead, had a length's advantage by the Mile and then surged away, winning by four lengths, an 11-second margin.

The second contest, from Chiswick Eyot to the Mortlake finish, followed a similar pattern, although Cambridge, again on Middlesex, cleared the Dutch rather quicker and had a 13-second advantage before the line.

Topolski has reluctantly returned to coach Oxford

Rock-and-roll fervour from blue-rinse set

Louise Taylor is given a lively introduction to a fast-growing pastime on a visit to the world indoor bowls championships in Preston

She was almost certainly a 60-something, her hair set in the accustomed blue-rinse style and generous hips accommodated within a sensible pleated skirt. Sensible? Shortly before 1pm on Friday at Preston Guild Hall, the public address attempted to whip up an atmosphere before the men's singles semi-final of the world indoor bowls championships by playing Tina Turner's "Simply the Best". As loudly as allowable. Right on cue, this lady rose to her feet and, hips swaying rhythmically, ample bosom rising and falling to the beat, she acted as impromptu cheerleader.

Holding a scarf outstretched above her head, like a spectator at a football match, her energetic, unsolicited performance prompted everyone else, still conservatively seated, to clap in time to Tina. "*I hang on every word you say,*" belted out the songstress while everyone in the Guild Hall was hooked on our heroine's performance.

She must have been a bonny younger woman, the toast of many a village or town hall hop. After the music died, and she sat demurely in her seat, the bowls appeared in danger of being an anti-climax.

Fortunately, an absorbing four-hour match featuring Andy Thomson's fascinating narrow win over Tony Allcock proved at least equal to that build-up. Though unnerved beforehand by technical talk about nests of woods, jacks and ends, I was, despite utter ignorance, able to enjoy the contest, the sport being simple enough for the uninitiated to be put quickly in the picture and appreciate it.

I had been against bowls since learning that some clubs only contenance woman members if they agree to join the tea rota. But once in the Guild Hall, I could see why it is one of Britain's fastest-growing pastimes.

At 31, however, I was among the youngest members of an audience that largely looked ideal candidates for Saga holidays. A couple in front of me appeared typical. Placing comfortable cushions on top of their perfectly adequate Guild Hall seats and sharing a bag of pick 'n' mix sweets, they conformed to a cosy stereotype — until such impressions were shattered by the man pulling out a mobile phone and making a series of calls.

An afternoon of the unexpected had started when, along with the growing throng, I entered the Guild Hall — via a scruffy, soulless shopping precinct beneath the building. Once inside the reception area, we were confronted by a bank of television screens offering the latest odds from Haydock and a large Ladbroke's betting stall. Across the room was a licensed bar and dotted around were little friendship groups seated at tables enjoying sandwiches and the contents of Thermos flasks. Now I knew what the people in the queue at the door had been hiding in those uniform plastic bags — their lunch.

This rather downmarket image, was, however, confounded by a number of cut-glass accents. Can bowls really be a classless sport?

Many spectators probably bypassed this rather tacky reception and settled down in the auditorium to concentrate on the main event. At £2 for a seat with free comprehensive championship programme thrown in, this representated excellent value.

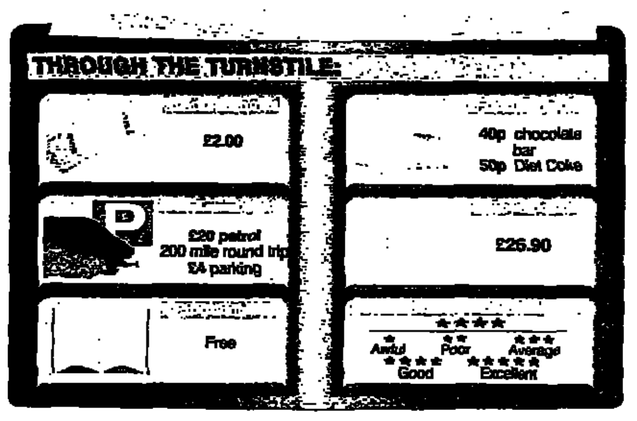
Between ends you could dip into that informative, chatty programme, written in a style that seduced the reader into believing the world of bowls is one big, happy family.

For an alternative perspective, I scanned the *Lancashire Evening Post* which set the scene by declaring: "Two worlds were set to collide in Preston this afternoon with indoor and outdoor bowls champs, Andy Thomson and Tony Allcock, meeting in a global head-to-head at the Guild Hall." Gosh.

Maybe the programme editors were underplaying their product by adopting a grass-roots approach, writing about the sixtieth anniversary dinner of the Avenue Ladies Club, Norwich, or members of Hook BC, Hampshire, installing electric cabling in readiness for the season.

Perhaps not; hidden away among such minutiae was the news that the singles champion would win £26,000 with £13,000 going to the runner-up — serious money by most standards.

Small wonder Thomson and Allcock — both trim, fit and youngish-looking — seemed so tense throughout and BBC2 was in rapt attendance. Or that our blue-rinse heroine felt compelled to strut her stuff.



THROUGH THE TURNSTILE:

Putting punishments in perspective

CLEMENT FREUD

Afterthoughts

I was walking through Berwick Street market in Soho when one of the street traders turned up the volume of his portable radio and we heard the news bulletin: Eric Cantona suspended until October.

"Tough sentence," said a man who sells iffy fruit.

"Deserves it — he was a villain," said the one who discounts groceries that have passed their sell-by date. "Him and Graham both."

For those who feel that the authorities have been harsh on a kung fu kick and a man who borrowed some money ... well, quite a lot of money ... for a couple of years, let me remind you of the punishment accorded a "football villain" in 1959. His name was John Crossan. He was 20 years old. He was suspended for life.

At 18, Crossan played for Derry City in the Ulster League. In his second season for that club he was doing well enough as an "amateur" to give up his job at a local gramophone works. The following year he was approached by an English first division club with a view to transfer.

Derry, like all Northern Ireland clubs dependent on transfer fees for financial survival, offered to sign Crossan as a professional (you can't sell a man until you pay him on the books) and then split the £6,000 fee down the middle.

Advice came at the young Irishman from all directions and he told his club that he *would* sign as a pro but his share would have to be £5,000. Derry declined and played him in the reserves as punishment for his lack of cooperation.

Looking at records for the Fifties, of every 20 Ulster League footballers who signed professional forms, 19 left their clubs within four weeks. Some years earlier Danny Blanchflower had resolved his financial problems by signing for a club of which he was proprietor and managing director, in which capacity he sold himself.

Amateur contracts expire on the last day of the football season and on May 20 Crossan let it be known that he was disgusted with his treatment and was available.

On May 31 he joined Coleraine and two weeks later, for reasons that would seem to have had more to do with sour grapes than upholding the good name of Irish football, Derry City circularised the football leagues of Great Britain admitting they had offered Crossan £3,000 as an inducement to turn professional, but that Crossan had wanted more. Now they asked all clubs to beware this bad man and advised the national leagues not to grant registration.

A week into the new season Coleraine sold Crossan to Bristol City, subject to contract, and eight days later he was back in Derry, the Football League having ordered the FA not to register him.

The Irish League ordered a full inquiry and, without giving Crossan the opportunity to attend or be represented, suspended him from football for life. Derry were fined £256; no action was taken against the director who had offered him the money.

Crossan told me at the time that he had no idea what he would have done with £5,000 had he got it. He stayed on the ground staff at Coleraine and trained there three days a week.

As he walked through the streets of his native town, people who knew him and had read that he was appealing against the verdict came up to ask: "Any news?" He would shake his head and say: "Still waiting."

It was 1962 before he next kicked a football in earnest.

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

071-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity - The Third World Foundation for Social and Economic Studies

The Commissioners propose to make an Order appointing trustees of this charity. Copies of the draft Order can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to St Alban's House, 57/60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting reference MOT-278516A/3-CD(Ldn1). Objections and suggestions can be sent within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

No. 00580 of 1995
IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
IN THE MATTER OF CRT GROUP PLC
and
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that a Petition was on the 1st day of February 1995 presented to Her Majesty's High Court of Justice for the confirmation of the cancellation of the Share Premium Account of the above-named Company as at the 29th September 1994

AND NOTICE BE FURTHER GIVEN that the said Petition is directed to be heard by Mr Registrar Buckley at the Companies Court, Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London, WC2A 2LL on the 8th day of March 1995.

ANY creditor or shareholder of the said Company desiring to oppose the making of an Order for the confirmation of the said cancellation of Share Premium Account should appear at the time of the hearing in person or by Counsel for that purpose. A copy of the said Petition will be furnished to any such person requiring the same by the undermentioned Solicitors on payment of the regulated charge for the same.

Dated this 28th day of February 1995

This Summons was taken out by Alsop Wilkinson of 11 St. James's Square, Manchester M2 6DR. Ref: AH/JM/G-4216.476. Solicitors for the above-named Company

LEGAL NOTICES

Blaze Travel Limited

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace., (2nd Floor)., London W2 6LF on 9th March 1995 at 10.30 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace. (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors. DATED THIS 22nd February 1995. M. Lazarus - Director

LONDON & NEW YORK (CHARING CROSS ROAD) LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4. 106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Michael J C Oldham, a Licenced Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 16th February 1995. DATED THIS 16TH FEBRUARY 1995 Michael J C Oldham Liquidator

Colin Farley & Associates Limited

The Insolvency Act and Rules 1986 Notice is hereby given that the creditors of the above named company, which is being voluntarily wound up, are required, on or before 31 May 1995 to send in their full Christian and surnames, their addresses and descriptions, full particulars of their debts or claims, and the names and addresses of their Solicitors (if any), to the undersigned L A Manning of 84 Grosvenor Street, London, W1X 9DF, the Liquidator of the said company, and, if so required by notice in writing from the said Liquidator, are personally or by their Solicitors, to come in and prove their debts or claims at such time and place as shall be specified in such notice, or in default thereof they will be excluded from the benefit of any distribution. Dated: 22 February 1995 L. A Manning Liquidator

Happyterm Limited
T/A Universal Vacations

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of the Insolvency Act 1986, that a meeting of the creditors of the above named company will be held at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co. situated at 30 Eastbourne Terrace..(2nd Floor)., London W2 6LF on 9th March 1995 at 11.00 for the purposes provided in Section 98 et seq. A list of names and addresses of the above company's creditors can be inspected at the offices of Leonard Curtis & Co PO Box 553, 30 Eastbourne Terrace. (2nd Floor), London W2 6LF, between the hours of 10.00am to 4.00pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors, DATED THIS 22nd February 1995 M.Lazarus - Director

DEALBRENT LIMITED
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4. 106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Michael J C Oldham, a Licensed Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 16th February 1995. DATED THIS 16TH FEBRUARY 1995 Michael J C Oldham Liquidator

NOTICE OF APPOINTMENT OF ADMINISTRATIVE RECEIVER
ROBERTS AND DORE LIMITED

Registered number 99453
Trading name(s) Roberts and Dore Limited
Nature of business Wholesalers and retailers of silver plated hollow-ware.
Trade classification 15
Date of appointment of administrative receivers 14 February 1995
Name of person appointing the administrative receiver(s)
National Westminster Bank Plc
W J H Elles and A R Bloom
Joint Administrative Receivers
(office holder nos 1963 and 6462)
Address
Ernst & Young
Becket House
1 Lambeth Palace Road
London SE1 7EU

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE CHANCERY DIVISION No: 008168 of 1994
IN THE MATTER OF THE KINDA TOWN PUBLIC LIMITED COMPANY
- and -
IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated 15 February 1995 confirming the cancellation of the amount of £11,638,000 standing to the credit of the share premium account of the Company was registered by the Registrar of Companies on 16 February 1995.

Dated this 23rd day of February 1995.
Messrs. Gouldens
22, Tudor Street,
London EC4Y 0JJ
Solicitors for the above-named Company

ROBERT FRASER (CHARING CROSS ROAD) LTD
THE INSOLVENCY ACT 1986

In accordance with Rule 4. 106 of The Insolvency Rules 1986 notice is hereby given that I, Michael J C Oldham, a Licensed Insolvency Practitioner of Latham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London W1H 3FF, was appointed Liquidator of the above Company by the Creditors on 16th February 1995. DATED THIS 16TH FEBRUARY 1995 Michael J C Oldham Liquidator

Notice of Appointment of Administrative Receivers
Coleslaw 195 Limited
Registered number: 2689787
Nature of business: Wholesale and distributors of air conditioning equipment
Trade classification: 15
Date of appointment of administrative receivers: 7 February 1995
Name of person appointing the administrative receivers: Barclays Bank plc
P R Copp and G S Kinlan
Joint Administrative Receivers
(office holder no(s) 1788 and 8268)
Address: BDO Stoy Hayward,
8 Baker Street,
London
W1M 1DA

BCL INVESTMENTS - COMPANY NO: 1911985
FENDALL FINANCE - COMPANY NO: 2037296
OYGEVAULT INTERNATIONAL HOLDINGS - COMPANY NO: 2087793
PAX PACIFIC INVESTMENTS - COMPANY NO: 2127662
LINTER INVESTMENTS - COMPANY NO: 1911984

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, pursuant to Rules 4. 182A and 11.2 of the Insolvency Rules 1986, that the Liquidator of the above companies intends to make a distribution to the creditors. Creditors are required to submit full details of their claims and their names and addresses to the Liquidator, David Patrick Hamilton at KPMG, International Building, P.O. Box F25, Freeport, Bahamas on or before Monday 3 April 1995, which is the last day for proving claims. Notice is also given that the Liquidator proposes to make final distributions and that such distributions will be made without regard to any claims not made by the date mentioned.

Note: the companies are able to pay all their known creditors in full.

Dated 23 February 1995
DP Hamilton - Liquidator

IN THE HIGH COURT OF JUSTICE
CHANCERY DIVISION
NO. 00217 OF 1995
IN THE MATTER OF UNITED TILE LIMITED
AND IN THE MATTER OF THE COMPANIES ACT 1985

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Order of the High Court of Justice (Chancery Division) dated Wednesday 15th February 1995, confirming the reduction of the capital of the above Company from £500,100 to £250,050 and the Minute approved by the Court showing with respect to the capital of the Company as altered the several particulars required by the above mentioned Act were registered by the Registrar of Companies on 18th February 1995.

WALL JAMES & DAVIES
19 Hagley Road
Stourbridge
West Midlands
DY8 1QW
Solicitors for the Company

Braithwaite too sharp for bristling Christie

By David Powell, athletics correspondent

GIVEN that Linford Christie has caught up with the fashion among British sprinters for growing beards, it seems appropriate to observe that his defeat by Darren Braithwaite on Saturday was by the merest whisker. If Christie is superstitious he will have removed his week's growth before this evening, when he is due to race Braithwaite indoors again, in Stockholm.

Christie's second place in the 60 metres at the KP Invitation in Birmingham was a rare loss to a fellow Briton and the possibility of two in three days is as unlikely as the British Athletic Federation (BAF) running a smooth operation. "You guys [the media] talk about my age, so I have got to start looking it," Christie, 34, said of his beard. Only a fool would suggest that one loss makes him an old man.

Christie applauded Braithwaite's victory, but added: "One race does not make you a champion." His razor will be out for Braithwaite and his "goatee" tonight.

Braithwaite, 26, from Haringey AC, had the worst day of his life when he dropped the baton in the sprint relay at the European championships last summer. "I was so dejected," he said. "People in the street would say: 'You're the one who dropped the baton'." He should be recognised now for his ability.

Results .... Page 32

One would have thought, after the débâcle of the European cross-country championships, when Britain selected one woman too many, that the BAF would have been stung into being meticulous in its dealings with athletes. Not so; Ian Stewart, the head of promotions, admitted there had been "an administrative error" in the case of Michael Rosswess.

Rosswess, twice a European bronze medal-winner in the 60 metres, was not informed that the timetable had been changed to include heats and missed the event. For Rosswess and Braithwaite, this was effectively to have been a run-off to determine Christie's partner for the world indoor championships in Barcelona next month.

Rosswess has a best equal to Braithwaite's time on Saturday, 6.54sec. He was previously the last Briton to beat Christie and claimed to be "in the best shape of my life". He said Stewart and "the coaches", mentioning Malcolm Arnold by name, had treated him "shabbily". Stewart considered employing a ninth lane to allow Rosswess to run in the final but international rules do not allow it. While the onus must be on officials to ensure that athletes are informed of changes, a competitor of Rosswess's experience should know to double-check.

"Ian Stewart said if you don't run, you don't get paid, and I have got bills to pay," Rosswess said. Stewart said later that he would "analyse the situation".

Needing analysis, too, is why the event was not a sell-out. Stewart could hardly have done more to put on a meeting with spectator appeal, especially as most American athletes were competing in Fairfax, Virginia, and some European countries were staging their national championships.

As well as British representation from Christie, John Regis and Tony Jarrett, the overseas cast was impressive: Irina Privalova, Frankie Fredericks, Moses Kiptanui to name but three. Inadequate marketing and inflated ticket prices seem responsible for a crowd that Stewart said was 6,800 but, in an arena which holds 8,000, seemed closer to 5,000.

Christie's disclosure that he will, after all, contest the world indoor championships, at 60 metres, is in contrast to many top athletes who will be missing, among them Fredericks, winner of the 200 metres in Birmingham, and Venuste Niyongabo, winner of the 3,000 metres.

Racing against Fredericks, Regis was disqualified for breaching his lane for his second successive 200 metres and, behind Niyongabo, John Mayock came within three seconds of Rob Denmark's British record, recording 7min 46.80sec.

Braithwaite apart, there was only one British winner: Jarrett, in the 60 metres hurdles. However, Ashia Hansen nudged closer towards the Barcelona medal reckoning with a Commonwealth record of 14.29 metres in the triple jump; Paula Thomas became the second quickest British woman 200 metres runner with 23.31sec; Melanie Neef set a Scottish 400 metres record with 52.57sec; and Paul Williamson and Kevin Hughes cleared 5.30 metres in the pole vault.

JULIAN HERBERT

Alex Rogan, of St Paul's, gets to grips with Adrian Li, of Harrow, during the independent schools' judo championships at High Wycombe

Bowing to the value of gentle discipline

By Tom Chesshyre

SPORT IN SCHOOLS

THE judge cried "waza-ari awa-sete ippon," with a flamboyant wave of his hand at two boys caught in a body lock. He made them stand to attention and then pointed to the winner. The boys bowed solemnly, shook hands, retreated a few steps and bowed again.

Japanese rules and etiquette were carefully observed by the 130 competitors aged from 13 to 18 in the independent schools' judo championship at High Wycombe on Saturday. The officials were strict: even a slightly untucked judogi — the heavy white costume used during fights — would bring a severe reprimand.

"Judo is a discipline sport," Bob Taylor, the event's organiser and judo coach at Winchester College, said. "It is important that youngsters learn to be disciplined early on. Not only does it make them better at judo, but it is something that can help in other walks of life."

The championship has steadily grown in popularity since it began in 1990. This year there was a record entry with 13 schools from around the country. Medals were up for grabs in 16 different age and weight categories. A special prize, the Budokwai Trophy, presented on behalf of the Budokwai Judo Club in London, was on offer for the competitor who showed the "best fighting spirit".

Standards were high, and Robert Barraclough, 16, of Manchester Grammar, a black belt, particularly caught the eye. He outclassed his rivals to win the intermediate under-78kg section.

"When I get out there I am totally keyed-in and focused," Barraclough said. "It's all about who wants to win the most and I always try to make sure that person is me. I like the physical aspect of testing out my strength and speed against sombody else's."

Tony Sweeney, who represented Britain at judo in the 1964 Tokyo Olympic Games and is now coach at St Paul's, said: "What is great about this championship is that it provides valuable competition experience on proper mats with professional judges. Also, because there are so many taking part, it means that people can be matched up quite closely in terms of weight."

Pangbourne College, repeating last year's success, won the overall schools' title with winners in five categories. One of the college's best performances came from Luke Blackburn, 15, in the intermediate under-71kg section.

Blackburn, who is deaf and relies on judges' hand-signals during contests, said: "It is a good sport for me because it does not depend on hearing. In a team sport like rugby, being able to hear is important and it can cause me to make mistakes and let the side down."

The Budokwai Trophy went to Corin Yeats, 17, from Eton School, who did not win a medal in the senior under-60kg section but impressed the judges with his faultless etiquette and sense of fair play.

"I was completely shocked by the prize," Yeats said modestly. "It helps to be ruthless in judo but I think that you should not try to hurt your opponent unnecessarily."

Things heated up towards the end of the day when the older boys, who were allowed to use more sophisticated and demanding arm-locks, took to the mats.

A fierce battle for medals took place in the senior under-78kg section. With a noisy crowd cheering them on, Barnaby Chesterman and Patrick Milling-Smith, despite both looking exhausted, frantically tugged away at each other. Chesterman, dripping with sweat, edged victory.

Judo is Japanese for "the gentle way". Unlike karate or tae kwon do, it does not involve kicking or striking. The art of the sport comes from devising ways to grab and throw the opponent, and it has been described as "physical chess".

Taylor said: "Judo is a form of self-defence. We tell all the boys that they should only use it outside the gym as a last resort. We hope that it builds up a quiet confidence but does not create a sense of invincibility that might get boys into trouble.

"It has picked up in popularity in Britain since boxing was phased out in schools in the 60s. I think this is because it offers an alternative channel for aggression."

Barraclough, who hopes one day to make the British Olympic squad, said: "I wish there was still boxing in schools but I think that judo is enjoyable in its own way. I just love to hear the judge shout 'Ippon' when I've made a winning throw."

Results, page 32

Logan's run sets Stirling on way to title

Stirling County	13
Boroughmuir	9

By Mark Souster

SO STIRLING County, to their credit, made sure of the silver. They have been the best side in Scotland this season, consistent, resourceful and skilful as the occasion demanded. They fully deserve their first McEwan's League title.

Stirling relish the label of outsiders. They are the first club to have broken the Borders-Edinburgh stranglehold in more than a 100 years and on Saturday displayed dogged determination against Boroughmuir.

They were grateful to West of Scotland, whose surprise victory over Watsonians, thanks to Dave Barrett's last minute dropped goal, ensured that celebrations could begin. "This is what fairy tales are made of," Stewart Hamilton, 39, the Stirling captain, said. "It took me at least two hours to realise the full extent of our achievement. We weren't at our best but our win showed all the qualities which have carried us through so much adversity on the road up the ladder." Having given the club 20 years service, he can recall the days when it was in the seventh division.

While Hamilton represents the past, Kenny Logan is the future. The 22-year-old Scotland wing relishes the big occasion and on Saturday he was in his element in a nervy match that had no pattern or rhythm. It was certainly no triumphant procession to the title.

For much of the time Boroughmuir were in charge, territorially at least. With two minutes remaining of the first half it was 6-6, Logan having kicked both Stirling's penalty goals. Another prodigious effort from inside his own half had fallen just short. It was reminiscent of Gavin Hastings in Paris a week earlier and leant weight to the argument that he is Hastings's natural successor at full back in the Scotland side.

Logan, oozing confidence, then produced a moment of which even the master would have been proud. Collecting the ball deep in his own half, he carved his way through the visitors' defence, beating three tackles before creating space for Jim Brough. The No 8 slipped the ball out to Gus Turner for the only try of the match.

Logan landed the conversion from wide out, then he and Stirling had to resist Boroughmuir for most of the second half. Time and again they poured forward, time and again Stirling drove them back and, in the process, repeatedly stole the ball. Turner saved the day for Stirling with some fine tackling, before Easson added a third penalty. But he then missed two more as the tension mounted.

SCORERS: Stirling County: Try: Turner. Conversion: Logan. Penalty goals: Logan (2). Boroughmuir: Penalty goals: Easson (3).

STIRLING COUNTY: C Sangster; A Turner, R Kennedy, M McGrandles, K Logan; M McKenzie, K Harper; J Gibson, K McKenzie, G Robertson, G Flockhart, J Hamilton, M Norval, B Ireland, J Brough.

BOROUGHMUIR: M Mardon; D Stark, S Lineen, D Laird, B Miller; B Easson, A Knight; G Wilson, N Dixon, P Wright, G Hepburn, D Burns, P Jennings, G Drummond, S Reid.

Misfortune strikes at Bell again

JONATHAN BELL, the young wing whose thigh injury caused him to withdraw from Ireland's opening five nations' championship match, against England last month, has been forced out of international rugby again (David Hands writes). Bell, 21, strained an Achilles tendon when the Irish squad trained on Saturday and will miss the game against France at Lansdowne Road next Saturday.

His place will go, as against England, to Niall Woods, of Blackrock College. Nick Popplewell, the Wasps prop who has bruised knee ligaments, and Keith Wood, the replacement hooker (stomach disorder), could not train but both are expected to be fit.

The elevation of Woods brings Maurice Field to the replacements and his place in the Combined Irish Provinces XV to play Northern Transvaal on Friday goes to Laurence Boyle, the Harlequins centre, with Niall Malone, of Leicester, joining the bench. The South African province opened a six-match tour by beating Leinster 27-17 at Donnybrook, thanks to two late tries.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

You hear the following auction:

S	W	N	E
1♦	Pass	1♥	Pass
2♣	Pass	2♦	Pass
2NT	Pass	3NT	All pass

How many hearts do you think South will have?

When this bidding sequence occurred in the Pairs competition at the Malta International Bridge Festival last week, the hand was as shown below. West led a spade to the jack and king, and the declarer played a diamond to the king and a diamond back to the jack. What should West do?

South dealer. Love all. Match pointed Pairs

West	North	East	South
♠10876	♠A953	♠J4	♠KQ2
♥J95	♥Q872	♥AK1063	♥4
♦Q93	♦K5	♦1062	♦AJ874
♣1073	♣954	♣QJ8	♣AK62

Contract: 3NT by South. Lead: six of spades

In this type of auction the declarer will frequently have a singleton his partner's suit. Here he is marked with nine cards in the minors, and is quite likely to hold three spades. If the declarer has a doubleton heart, he is likely to rebid in No-Trumps over the One Heart response without bothering to introduce a second suit.

West, Anne Flockhart, took this into account and switched to the jack of hearts. The declarer played low, and so after a heart continuation the defence came to five heart tricks, to beat the contract by two. Her partner, John Horsley, swore blind that if the declarer had covered the jack of hearts with the queen he would have continued with a low heart to his partner's nine — he was also listening to the bidding.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

INGRAVESCENT
- a. A mortuary smell
- b. Growing worse
- c. A parasitic plant

PROSOPOGRAPHY
- a. Study of persons
- b. An Identikit portrait
- c. Negative painting

CICURATE
- a. A lemon drink
- b. A surgeon's saw
- c. To tame

OPISTHENAR
- a. A Macedonian cavalry squadron
- b. A pot rack
- c. The back of the hand

Answers on page 41

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
Chess correspondent

Veterans lead

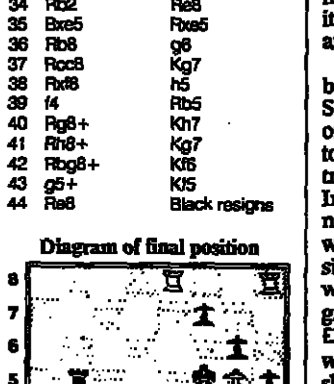
The veteran grandmasters Boris Gulko and Viktor Korchnoi continue to head the standings in the Pan Pacific international chess tournament. In round four Gulko defeated Maurice Ashley while Korchnoi won against Zsofia Polgar. Gulko now has 3.5 points while Korchnoi has 3. London's John Nunn has 2.5 points after his third draw. Here, Gulko outplays American chess prodigy Josh Waitzkin.
1993.

White: Boris Gulko
Black: Josh Waitzkin
Pan Pacific, San Francisco,
February 1995

English Opening

1	c4	e5
2	Nc3	Nf6
3	Nf3	Nc6
4	g3	d5
5	cxd5	Nxd5
6	Bg2	Nb6
7	0-0	Be7
8	a3	0-0
9	b4	Re8
10	d3	Bf8
11	Bb2	Bg4
12	h3	Bh5
13	Rc1	Qd7
14	g4	Bg6
15	Nh4	a6
16	Ne4	Rad8
17	Qc2	Nd5
18	e3	a5
19	bxa5	Nxa5
20	Rfd1	Qb5
21	Rb1	Qa6
22	Nxg6	Qxg6
23	Ng3	Qc6
24	Qxc6	Nxc6
25	Rdc1	Na5
26	Rc2	c6
27	Bc1	Ra8
28	Bd2	Red8
29	Ne4	b6
30	Nc3	Nxc3
31	Bxc3	Rxd3
32	Rxb6	Nc4
33	Rxc6	Nxa3
34	Rb2	Re8
35	Bxe5	Rxe5
36	Rb8	g6
37	Rcc8	Kg7
38	Rxf8	h5
39	f4	Rb5
40	Rg8+	Kh7
41	Rh8+	Kg7
42	Rbg8+	Kf6
43	g5+	Kf5
44	Re8	Black resigns

Diagram of final position

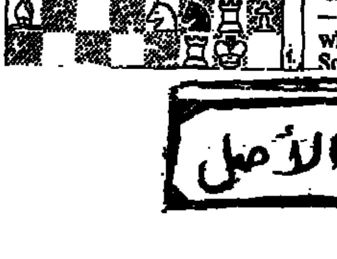


In the closing position Black's king is caught in a fatal net.

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

This position is from the game Hjartarson - Georgadze, Tilburg 1993. Although Black is suffering from a small material disadvantage, the fact that his pieces are swarming around the white king is more than enough compensation. How did he now conclude the game?

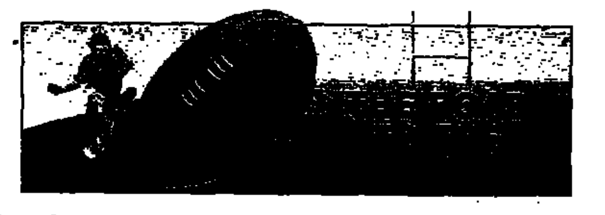


Solution page 41

Irish eyes look away from background of confusion

By Brendan Fanning

The varying degrees of enthusiasm shown by Ireland's travelling rugby supporters should never be seen as the litmus test of the country's chances in international competition. However, when some of them are willing to travel thousands of miles to the World Cup, and not include Ireland in their itinerary, it is time to wonder at the cause.



The opinion of every soul bound from these shores for South Africa in May has not, of course, been canvassed but to be told by a friend that his trip was organised and that Ireland's pool matches were no more than a "possibility" was disconcerting. To put it simply, my friend's attitude was that he was part of a group investing more than £3,000 in a holiday and they were not going to risk it by slavishly following Ireland.

"There'll be lots of other matches worth watching," he added — and this from a man who regularly attends club rugby, not some five nations' socialite who slips on his sheepskin coat come January and puts it away when the championship is over. Perhaps he is one of a misguided minority. Then again, maybe the depth of his apathy reflects a greater malaise.

As the World Cup edges closer, the message from Ireland is not one of hope. The idea that the five nations' championship would see a steady improvement in the side has already gone seriously askew. Outgunned against England — no shame in that — it was the sheer confusion when they fell behind against Scotland that was most worrying. If you are to subscribe to the reasonable-enough theory that with the third championship match — against France at Lansdowne Road next weekend — comes the great Irish awakening, then in the second outing there should have been some sign of an emergence from slumber.

To achieve continuity on the pitch, however, it helps to have continuity off it. So it is instructive to compare the Irish situation with that of Wales, their chief rivals in pool C of the World Cup. Wales seem to have a clear idea of the XV they want on the field, though hampered by injury; the arrival of Derwyn and the restoration of Robert have made the Jones boys the last pieces in the jigsaw.

Not so with Ireland. The chief playmaker, Eric Elwood, has been thrown out only to be brought back. Out, too, goes Conor O'Shea, paying the price for a dramatic loss of form since the tour of Australia last summer. Now comes the exclusion of the the ubiquitous Keith Wood.

Elwood: reinstated amid series of unsettling changes

All this is on the surface. The most significant change in personnel came behind the scenes with the departure of Willie Anderson before the championship even began. He was the de facto assistant coach but, de jure, he was no more than a technical assistant. That pedantic distinction tells much about the way the Irish Rugby Football Union deals with the minutiae. The ease with which it let him go tells even more.

Since then the preparation of the team has been shabby. The training sessions have lacked direction and the players are short on spirit and discipline. In the short term, Ireland hope that a French implosion next Saturday will facilitate a recovery of sorts. Thereafter, that remarkable record at Cardiff Arms Park — unbeaten since 1983 — will boost confidence for the more significant encounter to follow in Johannesburg. As matters stand, however, there is no reason to believe such an about-turn is likely.

☐ *Brendan Fanning is the Irish rugby correspondent for* The Sunday Times

هكذا من الأصل

هكذا من الاطلاع

Logan's run sets Stirling on way to title

Sale's drive sufficient to realise profit in loss

Turner: visionary coach

David Hands finds Leicester's nerve unshaken as they secure a 14-12 win in the Pilkington Cup

ONCE the disappointment etched in Sale faces has worn off, they will realise that the Pilkington Cup quarter-final defeat by Leicester on Saturday was, perhaps, the end of the beginning. They may have known it anyway: in what has been a season of substantial advance they proved to any doubters that they can live alongside the best in the country and, if they are sensible, will build on the knowledge.

To do that they should ignore much of the nonsense to be heard in the immediate aftermath of what may have been an exciting cup-tie but was, in fact, indifferently played by both teams. Televised criticism of the referee, Chris Rees, spilt over into public abuse by Steve Smith, the former Sale and England scrum half, which did neither Smith nor the game any credit.

Sale have too much going for them to dwell on such words though the game's outcome reflects the sense of frustration northern clubs have felt for many years. When push comes to shove, only one team from the division has made it all the way — Gosforth, in the mid-Seventies, whose coach when they first won the knockout competition was a lanky former lock called Jack Rowell.

Northern clubs feel, rightly or wrongly, that they exist on the fringe of the Rugby Football Union's borders and are treated as such. Orrell, in the heart of rugby league country, have fought such perceived attitudes for a generation; now Sale are well placed to represent the huge Manchester urban area in the top flight — they have put together a strong, competitive team directed by one of the most visionary heads in the country, Paul Turner. If Turner, 36, can fight off injury and hang on for another season there is no reason why his colleagues cannot take Sale into a new era of success at a time when the club's administrators have far-sighted plans for relocation and development.

Turner has complained that northern players have been overlooked for representative honours this season. But that has been part of the club's strength: individuals have not been distracted, they have focused on the league and cup demands to stand fifth in the former and in the last eight of the latter. Dean Richards, the Leicester captain, never a man to make excuses, cites the problems of successful teams whose optimum XV is together so seldom at this time of year.

The Tigers could not have complained if their roar had been stilled at Heywood Road rather than reaching their fourth successive semi-final draw (to be made at Twickenham today). Their lineout was blunted by the outstanding Baldwin, their back row nullified by the powerful mauling of Ashurst and Vyvyan and their back three tormented by Turner's kicking. Only in the scrum, where they were marginally outweighed, did they have a clear advantage and it was completely appropriate that the winning score came from that area.

They also had the composure that typifies England these days. Richards decided what had to be done, that the game had to be tighter, that possession had to be secured. That the final minute of time was ticking away when Liley kicked the winning goal mattered not, and even then Turner had the chance to snatch the verdict back when an early tackle gave him a kick at goal from 45 metres. He has kicked them from that range before; this time he did not.

But Turner's main grievance was the circumstances preceding the final series of scrums in the Sale 22, when he felt a penalty, or at least a scrum, should have gone Sale's way. In fact, television suggests that the referee was right in his judgment of the first knock-on, by a Sale hand; indeed Rees, found to be at fault by some for penalising the curved throwing-in of both hookers, had a better game — playing advantage particularly well at times — than his critics allowed.

As the clock wound down, the scrum was reset five times as Leicester, a point behind, edged forward, trying to create room for the out-of-sorts Harris to drop a goal. Finally, their reward for being able to exert scrum pressure whenever they chose was a penalty for a collapsed front row, nervelessly kicked by Liley. The full back ended with all Leicester's points, including the try, after a scoreless and curiously inhibited first half, which made the difference.

Turner's goalkicking, three penalties and a dropped goal, kept Sale noses ahead for 30 minutes in the second half but at no stage did they demonstrate the ambition that has made them, in many ways, the most talked-about club of the season. As they are about to find, the higher you rise, the more difficult it becomes to play the game that has taken you there.

SCORERS: Sale: Penalty goals: Turner (3). Dropped goal: Turner Leicester: Try: Liley. Penalty goals: Liley (3)

SALE: J Mallinder M Appleson, J Baxendell, G Stocks, C Yates; P Turner, C Saverimutto; P Smith, S Diamond, A Smith, D Erskine, J Fowler, D Baldwin, N Ashurst, C Vyvyan

LEICESTER: J Liley; S Hackney, D Edwards, S Potter, T Underwood; J Harris, A Kardooni; G Rowntree, R Cockerill, D Garforth, J Wells, M Johnson, M Poole, N Back, D Richards

Referee: C Rees (London)

Hall happy as Bath march on at the double

Bath	26
Northampton	6

By Bryan Stiles

MR GRUMPY had a smile on his face — and he would have been even happier if referees were allowed to have a sunnier disposition, too. John Hall, the Bath captain, is renowned for his frowns and his grumbles as he champions Bath's cause on and off the field, but on Saturday he was determined to wear a smile after this stodgy Pilkington Cup quarter-final victory.

The win had carried him a step nearer repeating the league and cup double, to which he led his team last season, and it merited a celebratory grin, but he was far from happy with referees. Not that he had any complaints about the referee on Saturday, apart from that every time he looked up from the bottom of a muddy maul Steve Lander seemed to be pointing an accusing finger at his players and awarding a penalty to the opposition.

No, his plea was that referees should be more relaxed in their policing of the game and have a rapport with the players, like Clive Norling, the retired Welsh referee, used to enjoy.

Hall claimed that referees were put under too much scrutiny in club games and and, as a result, did not let games flow, whereas when they were in charge of international games they gave players more latitude. He would prefer them to be "more flexible" in their approach and, as a former international and the respected captain of one of the leading clubs in English rugby, he deserves a hearing.

Hall is retiring at the end of the season and feels it would be a fitting finale to his career to lead Bath to yet another double. They lead the Courage League table by three points but were far below their best on Saturday in a game that Richard Hill, their former captain, described as "dreadful". Hall put their poor showing down to rustiness among players who had not played together in that combination for some time. Numerous moves broke down because players blundered into each other in midfield or criss-crossed and gave away penalties for obstruction. Then there was the Catt phenomenon. He is playing better for England than he is for Bath this season.

But Northampton deserve credit for their defence and for dominating the lineout through Bayfield, Rodber and Phillips. Northampton rarely threatened the Bath line, however, and, lying bottom of the first division table, must look forward to the rest of the season with some trepidation.

Grayson, their goal kicker, had a nightmare of a game, in contrast to Callard, who found the target with all of his six attempts. Penalty goals left the score at 9-3 at the interval, with Callard kicking another before Philip de Glanville danced through a packed defence to score a try. Ben Clarke rounded off a protracted move to collect a second try in the dying stages.

Although the referee showed yellow cards to Ubogu, Hynes and Haag, it was far from a dirty game.

SCORERS: Bath: Tries: De Glanville, Clarke. Conversions: Callard (2). Penalty goals: Callard (4) Northampton: Penalty goals: Grayson (2)

BATH: J Callard; A Swift, P de Glanville, J Guscott, J Sleightholme; M Catt, M Olsen; D Hilton, G Adams, V Ubogu, J Hall, M Haag, N Redman, S Ojomoh, B Clarke Olsen replaced by S Johnson (72min).

NORTHAMPTON: N Beal, K Morgan, F Packman, M Allen, C Moir, P Grayson, M Dawson; M Hynes, A Clarke, M Lewis, T Rodber, J Phillips, M Bayfield, J Cassell, G Seely

Referee: S Lander (Liverpool)

Maunder, the Exeter captain, gets the ball away to his threequarters during their Pilkington Cup quarter-final against Wasps at the County Ground. Photograph: Tim Cuff

Brave Exeter make vain attempt to bridge gap

John Hopkins sees Wasps thrive in unfamiliar surroundings and progress smoothly to the last four

HALF an hour after this game ended, the area behind the main stand was as crowded as if it were a country fair. A real buzz of conversation rose from this al fresco gathering just as, from time to time throughout the game, a deep and threatening roar had arisen from around the ground: "Come on Exe."

The two rival sets of supporters were reliving what they had just seen — a hard, honest cup-tie in which Wasps had won the prize of a place in the semi-finals of the Pilkington Cup with a 31-0 victory and Exeter had won the hearts and minds of those who watched. "We used to play a few fixtures down here and always had a great time," Rob Smith, the Wasps coach, explained. "A few of the boys are saying that we should start coming down here again."

There was never any doubt that Wasps would win but never a moment when they could let up. On this evidence it is hard to believe that Exeter prop up the third division of the Courage Clubs Championship with their 11 games having yielded only five points from two victories and a draw. Can that Exeter be the same one that prevented Wasps from scoring for the last dozen minutes of this match?

Some spectators had not been to the County Ground since Devon played the South African Barbarians in 1979 in front of 75 police and 2,500 spectators. Before that game anti-apartheid protesters threatened to let rabbits run onto the pitch during the match, which brought the reply from a four home unions' tour official: "If they release rabbits, we'll release ferrets."

After penetrating the maze of housing in which this ground is hidden, one was reminded of the fervour that rugby generates in Devon and Cornwall. It is fierce in its intensity (no half measures down here) and expressed by foot-stamping and a quick, knowledgeable outburst of applause or derision. "You can jump, Norm," an Exeter voice shouted at Hadley, Wasps' man mountain of a second-row. "They love their rugby down here," Andy Maunder, the Exeter captain, said.

At that moment, Maunder was being lionised by television after his part in this stirring performance. He saved one try and nearly scored another.

Caked from head to foot in mud, he appeared almost as happy as if his team had won. "Wasps are very good at moving the ball before contact," he said excitedly. "And at choosing the angles they run at. They keep on changing them. That was what struck us most."

The pitch resembled a quagmire, which is not surprising, considering that 40 tons of sand had been dumped on it so that the match could go ahead. One player looked at the barren, sandy waste and said: "I've seen more grass in a cigarette."

Exeter played above themselves, Wasps were true to themselves, running the ball as always. Their handling was nifty, players again and again turning to find a man to pass to in a way that belied the conditions underfoot. Wasps emphasize their back row, as England do, and there is no surprise in this, given its size and strength.

The difference between Exeter and Wasps was minuscule in terms of endeavour and commitment but massive in avoirdupois and in inches. Wasps had big forwards who were able to dominate the lineout and big backs who could run fast. Wasps play muscular rugby and, in these days of the running game, it is politically correct, too. It wins games and it wins friends.

SCORERS: Wasps: Tries: Ufton, P Hopley, Hunter, Skinner (2) Conversions: Braithwaite (3).

EXETER: S Doyle; A Turner, J Thomas, J Tutchings, S Dovell, A Green, A Maunder; R Gibbins, K Brooking, T Harris, N Southern, H Langley, R Baxter, P Westgate, J Batchelor

WASPS: J Ufton, P Hopley, D Hopley, G Childs, S Hunter; C Braithwaite, S Bates; D Molloy, P Delaney, I Dunston, L Dallaglio, N Hadley, M Greenwood, C Wilkins, D Ryan

Referee: A Spreadbury (Somerset)

Newport's troubles mount

Swansea	10
Newport	9

By Gerald Davies

HARDLY anything of note happened at St Helen's until two minutes from the end. Even then it was not of the kind the crowd wanted to see nor the clubs wish to read about. While Newport were mounting a final assault on the Swansea line and events were moving infield, drawing everyone's attention, Shane McIntosh and Gareth Rees were pursuing their own private squabble.

Only the touch judge saw properly what was happening and, in reporting what went on — something McIntosh had done with his knee, to which Rees responded with his fist — to the referee, the two players were dismissed from the field.

The visitors might have felt more aggrieved at this decision than their opponents because Newport have been struggling for most of the season to stay away from the relegation zone and will now lose what they consider to be their most influential player.

Only one point separated the teams but for all the difference it makes at the bottom of the first division, there might as well have been a vast deficit, like those that Abertillery and Pontypool suffered over the weekend. The dogfight at the bottom should include Dunvant, too. In one form or another, all four have matches against each other in the remaining days of the season. In these circumstances, the Canadian stand-off half is going to be sorely missed.

After several moments of petulance in the match, a sending-off was on the cards. That it came so late was a surprise. It caused wonder, too, that it seemed the least offensive incident of the day.

Newport, with Moseley and Voyle doing well at the lineout, began in spirited mood, with some good running and interpassing between half-back and back row. But this came to nought and they notched up their six first-half points through two penalties by Rees. As Swansea had the use of the wind in the second half, they were not enough.

A sweeping counter-attacking run by Harris nearly brought Swansea a try after five minutes. Had he dived he would have got there but, remaining upright, he was bundled into the corner flag. It was the most memorable piece of rugby all afternoon.

Davies tried something similar on the other wing but in kicking ahead he was charged late and Williams kicked the penalty. Williams, always looking for the break, then established a position close to the visitors' line. Pressure from Appleyard and the rest of his forwards resulted in a try for Reynolds in the 57th minute.

Thereafter the match was riddled with errors. The only other score came from a penalty by Rees, indicating how valuable he is and how he will be missed by Newport in the weeks to come.

SCORERS: Swansea: Try: Reynolds Conversion, Williams Penalty goal: Williams Newport: Penalty goals: G Rees (3).

SWANSEA: D Weatherley; A Harris, S McIntosh, R Boobyer, S Davies, A Williams, R Jones, K Colclough, M Thomas, R Shaw, A Reynolds, M Evans, P Arnold, R Appleyard, S Davies. Arnold replaced by R Moriarty (40min)

NEWPORT: D Hughes, I Jeffreys, S Enoch, M Yendle, R Rees, G Rees, M Roderick, D Thomas, A Peacock, S Cronk, B Atkins, K Moseley, M Voyle, D Gray, R Goodey Hughes replaced by D Rees (65) Goodey replaced by A Carter (30). Peacock temporarily replaced by P Corton (40).

Referee, H Lowe (Pontypridd)

Blackheath settle a score

Blackheath	24
Harrogate	0

By Barry Trowbridge

DANNY VAUGHAN, the Blackheath coach, was featured in the programme for this Courage Clubs Championship third division match as the man for whom an "impossible dream" had come true. For the first time since the start of the season, he was able to field a full, first-choice, first team.

Penning the piece, Matt Griffiths, the right wing in Vaughan's vaunted vigilantes, then detailed, with reference to each player, why life was looking up at the Rectory Field, and concluded by suggesting that the team was back to something like its best in time to make a push for the championship. "Today's game [against a Harrogate side a place below Blackheath in the table] promises to answer a lot of questions," he wrote.

Opposite, was a brief match report on Blackheath's previous league match, against Rosslyn Park only two weeks before, which apparently had been a dour affair decided, in The Club's favour, on penalty goals, and one in which any player with double figures on his back might just as well have spent the second half in the bar. Hardly the stuff of champions — but who was to be believed?

When a hailstorm greeted the players on Saturday, the smart money was heavily on the latter. As Harrogate will testify, though, Griffiths had missed hardly a thing. Blackheath really are approaching their best, and with this overwhelming victory they went two points clear at the top as a result.

Even when a welter of questionable refereeing decisions went against them, the Blackheath players seemed far less agitated than their supporters, and the fact that the first memorable move by the Harrogate backs came after an hour, and was not repeated, was testament to their superiority.

Only in orthodox lineouts did Harrogate come anywhere near to matching Blackheath's expertise, but they had no match for Harris or Walton at the tail and were at a loss to deal with the pace and stamina of the front row of Shadbolt, Ridgway — both of whom battered their way on to the scoresheet — and Stewart, either on the peel or in the loose.

Demonstrating how much easier life is behind a rampant pack, Friday, easily the man of the match, was imperious with darting breaks that constantly breached the gain line, and with Smith, MacIntyre and Burns carving holes through the centre, it is a wonder that Blackheath did not score more tries.

With matches at Otley and at home to Bedford — the other clubs vying for the two promotion spots — next on Blackheath's agenda, their destiny is in their own hands. The thought of, perhaps, Northampton or Harlequins at the Rectory Field next season should be incentive enough … or is that just a coach's impossible dream?

SCORERS: Blackheath: Tries: Shadbolt, Hanslip, Ridgway Conversions: Howard (3) Penalty goal: Howard.

BLACKHEATH: S Burns; M Griffiths, J MacIntyre, R Smith, M Hanslip, S Howard, M Friday, P Shadbolt, C Ridgway, M Stewart, D Walton, G Furneaux, A Codling, T Booth, M Harris.

HARROGATE: G Kubu, P Woolley, C Reed, A Pearson, R Bell, S Towse, G Easterby, S Carbutt, R Whyley, D Hall, A Pride, P Taylor, R Castleton, R Mercroft, J Hopkinson Castleton replaced by M Ruthen (67min)

Referee: W Melrose (East Midlands)

Harlequins display liking for economy class again

Harlequins	13
Wakefield	8

By Peter Bills

SOME shrewd old heads, doubtless mindful of history, piloted Harlequins into their seventh Pilkington Cup semi-final in eight years with an economy of performance that proved to be pinpoint in its accuracy. The London club is a past master at gauging the precise level of performance required to extend its cup traditions and, again, it did just enough.

Nobody will understand better than Harlequins that an altogether superior performance will be required against any of the remaining semi-finalists five weeks from now. Icing on their cake there most definitely was not, and, if Wakefield had possessed greater quality and conviction behind the scrum, they could have created an upset.

In the final minute, with Wakefield one converted try short of glory, Petyt, the stand-off half, made a long break downfield and the Harlequins defence was carved open. But, not for the first time, a promising Yorkshire movement came to nought because of poor passing and vision.

So the London side negotiated another hurdle in a thoroughly difficult season. Already without their England loose-head prop, Leonard, Harlequins lost their tight-head, Mullins, on the morning of the match, forcing Desmond to play his first game in the position for two years. The stand-in did well to survive but the disruption to their scrummage was evident.

Since Dick Best's return to the club as director of rugby on December 1, Harlequins have not seen one team selected on a Tuesday evening appear on the field on the Saturday. "I feel like the school headmaster — I've heard every excuse in the book," Best said.

Full league and cup results ..... Page 32

The first division side went behind to Jackson's fifth-minute penalty and trailed until the sixth minute of first-half injury time when Sheasby seized Challinor's high kick and, after play had been switched, Greenwood scored in the left corner.

The mistakes of the first half continued unimpaired after half-time. Greenwood's dropped goal, followed by Challinor's try after heavy pressure near the Wakefield line, persuaded Harlequins 13-3 was enough. It nearly was not. Yates burst into their 22 and, from the industrious Scully's tapped free kick, Thompson scored in the corner. Alarm bells rang when Petyt ran at them near the finish but Harlequins held out.

Wakefield lost because they lacked the dynamism of Harlequins' breakaways and never had sufficient poise in possession. For all the urgings of their supporters, they achieved little with a surprising amount of ball. Their lack of invention behind the scrum meant that expectation was never realised.

SCORERS: Harlequins: Tries: Greenwood, Challinor Dropped goal: Greenwood Wakefield: Try: Thompson Penalty goal: Jackson.

HARLEQUINS: W Greenwood, C Wright, W Carling, G Thompson, C Henderson; P Challinor, R Kitchin; S Brown, B Moore, I Desmond, M Russell, A Snow, P Thresher, R Jenkins, C Sheasby Russell replaced by M Pepper, 78min

WAKEFIELD: M Jackson; P White, P Maynard, A Metcalfe, R Thompson R Petyt, D Scully; R Latham, T Garnett, R Szabo, N Green, S Croft, P Stewart, V Yates, M Sowerby.

Referee: E Morrison (Bristol).

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

BIRMINGHAM: Indoor invitational meeting: Men: 60m: 1, D Braithwaite (GB) 6.54; 2, L Christie (GB) 6.55; 3, F Fredericks (Nam) 6.56. 200m: 1, F Fredericks (Nam) 20.55; 2, O Adeniken (Nigeria) 20.75; 3, P Stevens (Bel) 20.80; 4, D Braithwaite (GB) 20.90; J Regis (GB) disq. 400m: 1, D Hall (US) 45.78; 2, M Hylton (GB) 46.56; 3, S Bada (Nigeria) 46.61. 800m: 1, I Komar (Bela) 1:46.79; 2, A Loginov (Russ) 1:47.13; 3, K Osei (Ghana) 1:47.24; 5, D Matthews (Ire) 1:48.44. 1500m: 1, H El Guerrouj (Mor) 3:36.22; 2, A Whiteman (GB) 3:41.28; 3, A Hart (GB) 3:45.64. 3000m: 1, V Niyongabo (Burundi) 7:37.82; 2, M Kiptanui (Ken) 7:42.09; 3, J Mayock (GB) 7:46.80. 60m hurdles: 1, T Jarrett (GB) 7.44; 2, A Haapakoski (Fin) 7.64; 3, G Boroi (Rom) 7.64. High jump: 1, R Ruffini (Sloven) 2.26; 2, G Mayo (Col) 2.26; 3, D Grant (GB) 2.20. Triple jump: 1, Y Quesada (Cuba) 17.22; 2, B Wellman (Berm) 17.00; 3, M Bruziks (Lat) 16.89. Pole vault: 1, R Gataullin (Russ) 5.80; 2, V Bukreyev (Est) 5.60; 3, D Krasnov (Isr) 5.50. Women: 60m: 1, I Privalova (Russ) 7.07sec; 2, Z Tarnopolskaya (Ukr) 7.20; 3, S Douglas (GB) 7.29. 200m: 1, B McDonald (Russ) 23.19; 2, P Thomas (GB) 23.31; 3, S Douglas (GB) 23.85. 400m: 1, S Richards (Jam) 52.38; 2, D Hemmings (Jam) 52.46; 3, M Neef (GB) 52.57. 800m: 1, E Van Langen (Holl) 2min 01.79sec; 2, L Vriesde (Surinam) 2:02.97; 3, V Beclea (Rom) 2:03.02; 5, A Hunte (GB) 2:06.31. 60m hurdles: 1, O Shishigina (Kazak) 7.88; 2, A Lopez (Cuba) 7.97; 3, B Bukovec (Sloven) 7.98; 4, J Agyepong (GB) 8.06. Triple jump: 1, A Biryukova (Rus) 14.36m (UK all-comers record); 2, A Hansen (GB) 14.29 (UK and Commonwealth record); 3, I Prandzheva (Bul) 14.19.

FAIRFAX: IAAF Grand Prix: Men: 100m: 1, H Neal (US) 6.56. 400m: 1, M Johnson (US) 45.55. 800m: 1, J Tengelei (Ken) 1:47.57. Mile: 1, M O'Sullivan (Ire) 3:56.48. 3000m: 1, B Kennedy (US) 7:45.34. 60m hurdles: 1, A Johnson (US) 7.44; 3, J Pierce (GB) 7.52. High jump: 1, T Barton 2.31m. Pole vault: 1, P Manson 5.70. Women: 60m: 1, G Torrence (US) 7.10. 200m: 1, P Davis (Bah) 23.20. 400m: 1, J Miles (US) 51.92. 800m: 1, M Mutola (Moz) 1:59.41. Mile: 1, R Jacobs 4:31.94. 60m hurdles: 1, J Joyner-Kersee (US) 7.87. High jump: 1, T Waller 1.95

BASKETBALL

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION (NBA): Cleveland 105 New Jersey 102; Washington 102 Sacramento 98; Houston 112 Golden State 105; LA Clippers 83 LA Lakers 81

BUDWEISER LEAGUE: Chester 72 (Gardner 22, Johnson 18, Crow 14) Leopards 87 (Youngblood 24, Brown 23, Pollit 16); Leicester 58 (Tresvant 21, Harris 13, Waldron 11) Birmingham 82 (Dorsey 22, Samuels 17, Lloyd 16); Thames Valley 88 (Bucknall 21, Holley 19, Hayles 17) Manchester 84 (Johnson 27, Robinson 20, St Kitts 14); Worthing 98 (Cunningham 35, Hamed 23, Irish 19) Doncaster 103 (Fite 31, Modzelewski 27, Joseph 25); Doncaster 87 (Bale 21, Fite 20, Joseph 15) Chester 80 (Gardner 31, Johnson 14, Bannister 10); Hemel Hempstead 89 Derby 79

Postponed: Sunderland v London

ENGLISH ASSOCIATION (EBA): Men: First division: Coventry 85 Slough 65; Oldham 83 Nottingham 71; Solent 76 Bury 73; Stockton 87 Plymouth 84. Second division: Mid Sussex 79 Westminster 61; Worcester 76 Sheffield 68. Women: First division: Barking and Dagenham 73 Cardiff 51; Ipswich 71 Northampton 88; Liverpool 66 Birmingham 76; Rhondda 62 Thames Valley 45. Second division: Leicester 45 Tyne and Wear 65; Manchester 55 Spelthorne 73; Spelthorne 50 Brixton 38.

BILLIARDS

WIGAN: UK Professional Championship: Semi-finals: P Gilchrist (Eng) bt A Shandilya (Ind) 906-582; S Agarwal (Ind) bt I Williamson (Eng) 715-571

BOWLS

PRESTON: World Indoor Championship: Singles final: A Thomson (Eng) bt R Corsie (Scot) 7-2, 7-6, 7-3. Pairs final: A Marshall and R Corsie (Scot) bt D Bryant and A Allcock (Eng) 6-7, 7-4, 7-3, 1-7, 7-4

BOXING

LONDON ARENA: World Boxing Council super-middleweight championship: Nigel Benn (Ilford, holder) bt Gerald McClellan (Illinois) ko 10th. World Boxing Council light-heavyweight championship: Mike McCallum (Jamaica, holder) bt Carl Jones (Los Angeles) rsf 7th. Light-middleweight (10rds): Adrian Dodson (Islington) bt Lloyd Honeyghan (Bermondsey) rsc 3rd. Light (8rds): Charn Joof (Brixton) bt Tony Foster (Hull) pts. Feather (8rds): Colin McMillan (Barking) bt Mark Hargreaves (Burnley) rsc 4th. Feather (4rds): Marcus McRay (Brixton) bt Andrew Reid (Potters Bar) rsc 4th.

CRESTA RUN

ST MORITZ: Georges Prade Cup: 1, K von Schulthess (Cz), 162.30pts; 2, P Mullen (Ire), 165.95; 5, D Liversedge (GB), 172.54. Gunter Sachs challenge cup: 1, M Pitsch (Cz) 105.22; 2, J Sunley (GB) 108.83.

CRICKET

New Zealand v Australia

Centenary Series

Final

AUCKLAND: *Australia beat New Zealand by six wickets*

NEW ZEALAND

M J Greatbatch c McGrath b Reiffel	8
M Douglas c Healy b Reiffel	2
*K R Rutherford c Boon b May	46
S P Fleming c Healy b M E Waugh	0
C L Cairns c Taylor b May	17
S A Thomson c and b Warne	9
†A C Parore c Taylor b Warne	2
J Vaughan not out	20
G R Larsen run out	0
C Pringle b May	1
D K Morrison not out	4
Extras (b 1, lb 10, w 13, nb 4)	28
Total	137

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-8, 2-29, 3-35, 4-81, 5-102, 6-106, 7-106, 8-106, 9-112.

BOWLING: McGrath 9-1-25-0; Reiffel 10-3-14-2; M E Waugh 10-1-38-1; Warne 10-2-21-2; May 10-2-19-3; Blewett 1-0-9-0.

AUSTRALIA

G S Blewett c and b Pringle	7
*M A Taylor st Parore b Vaughan	44
M E Waugh c Parore b Morrison	46
D C Boon not out	24
S R Waugh c Rutherford b Thomson	1
R T Ponting not out	7
Extras (lb 3, w 3, nb 3)	9
Total (4 wkts)	138

†I A Healy, P R Reiffel, S K Warne, T B A May and G D McGrath did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-93, 3-116, 4-121

BOWLING: Morrison 9-1-31-1; Pringle 9.1-1-52-1; Thomson 5-0-22-1; Vaughan 6-1-18-1; Larsen 2-0-12-0.

Zimbabwe v Pakistan

Second one-day international

HARARE: *Pakistan beat Zimbabwe by four wickets*

ZIMBABWE

*†A Flower c Moin b Wasim	9
G W Flower c Moin b Manzoor	32
M Burmester c Aamir b Manzoor	17
A Campbell c Inzamam b Salim	27
D L Houghton not out	73
G Whittall c Ijaz b Wasim	13
S Carlisle not out	9
Extras (lb 13, w 11, nb 5)	29
Total (5 wkts)	209

S Peall, H Streak, P Strang and B Strang did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-70, 3-74, 4-130, 5-185.

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-0-40-2; Aqib Javed 10-1-41-0; Manzoor Elahi 10-0-36-2; Akram Raza 10-0-27-0; Aamir Sohail 6-0-30-0; Salim Malik 4-0-22-1

PAKISTAN

Aamir Sohail c Whittall b Streak	7
Saeed Anwar c Burmester b B Strang	0
Inzamam-ul-Haq not out	116
Asif Mujtaba c A Flower b B Strang	0
*Salim Malik c A Flower b Streak	0
Ijaz Ahmed b B Strang	54
†Moin Khan c Houghton b P Strang	19
Manzoor Elahi not out	3
Extras (lb 2, w 8, nb 1)	11
Total (6 wkts, 48.3 overs)	210

Wasim Akram, Akram Raza and Aqib Javed did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-9, 2-17, 3-19, 4-23, 5-175, 6-206

BOWLING: Streak 9-1-50-2; B Strang 10-0-22-3; Whittall 7-0-33-0; Burmester 4-0-21-0; P Strang 8-0-33-1; Peall 8-0-35-0; G Flower 2-0-13-0; Campbell 0.3-0-1-0.

Zimbabwe v Pakistan

Third one-day international

HARARE: *Zimbabwe beat Pakistan by 74 runs*

ZIMBABWE

*†A Flower c Moin b Manzoor	73
G W Flower c Moin b Wasim	6
M Burmester c Ijaz b Akram Raza	39
D L Houghton c Aqib b Salim	34
A Campbell c Inzamam b Aqib	18
G Whittall c Moin b Manzoor	1
S Carlisle c Moin b Wasim	4
P Strang c Moin b Aqib	4
H Streak c Manzoor b Aqib	18
B Strang not out	0
Extras (lb 16, w 9)	25
Total (9 wkts)	222

M Jarvis did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-15, 2-119, 3-171, 4-171, 5-175, 6-187, 7-194, 8-222, 9-222

BOWLING: Wasim Akram 10-1-33-2; Aqib Javed 10-1-46-3; Manzoor Elahi 10-0-41-2; Akram Raza 10-0-45-1; Aamir Sohail 6.5-0-31-0; Salim Malik 3-1-0-10-1.

PAKISTAN

Shakeel Ahmed c A Flower b Jarvis	36
†Moin Khan c Whittall b Jarvis	8
Inzamam-ul-Haq c sub b P Strang	45
*Salim Malik c Whittall b P Strang	3
Ijaz Ahmed c B Strang b P Strang	12
Asif Mujtaba run out	20
Manzoor Elahi c Carlisle b Whittall	10
Akram Raza c A Flower b Whittall	2
Aqib Javed not out	2
Wasim Akram st A Flower b G Flower	3
Extras (lb 3, w 4)	7
Total (9 wkts, 43.3 overs)	148

Aamir Sohail did not bat.

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-73, 3-80, 4-106, 5-112, 6-138, 7-143, 8-143, 9-148.

BOWLING: Streak 6-2-7-0; B Strang 6-1-15-0; Whittall 6-0-24-2; Jarvis 10-1-37-2; P Strang 10-0-42-3; G Flower 5.3-0-20-1.

WANGANUI: Tour match: New Zealand Select 289-7 (D Murray 150 not out; Chamindra Vaas 4-63) v Sri Lanka

CYCLING

TIME-TRIALS: North Road CC Hardriders' (Essendon, 25 miles): 1, G Butler (Norwood Paragon), 1hr 0min 0sec. Redhill CC Sporting (Dorking, 17 miles): B Taylor (Bournemouth Arrow CC), 38.33. Rockingham Forest Wheelers Hilly (Middleton 24 miles): D Sweeney (Rockingham Forest Wh), 58.18. Two-up event: J French and S Harwood (Leo RC), 56.49. Lea Valley RC (Quendon, two-up 25 miles): J Wych and B Paton (Octagon VC), 57.57. Birkenhead North End CC (two-up, 25 miles): W Young and P Pearce (TS Tameside), 54.24. Nova CC (Cheshire, two-up 25 miles): A Owen and N Giles (CC Abergavenny), 54.59. Corsham RC (Devizes, two-up 20 miles): A Lyons and L Dinham (Plymouth Corinthian), 47:03. Tavistock Wheelers Hilly (19 miles): A Ryder (St Budeaux CC), 51.53. Ipswich BC (Woodbridge, 25 miles): B Paton (Octagon VC), 1.02.56. Wrekinsport CC (Hodnet, Shropshire, 10 miles): H Roberts (Paramount RT), 22.27. Wyre Forest CRC (Ombersley, 10 miles): B Charley (Wrekinsport CC), 20.44. Fullarton Wheelers (Irvine, two-up 10 miles): J Cusick and M Ferry (Glasgow Nightingale CC), 22.25.

ROAD RACES: Clayton Velo Spring Classic (Barnoldswick, 55 miles): 1, C Newton (North Wirral Velo), 2.20.00. Fareham Wheelers (Wheely Down, 57 miles): M Rogers (Team Energy), 2.13.14. Mid-Devon CC (Chudleigh Knighton, 35 miles): M Doran (Army CC), 1.25.50. San Fairy Ann CC (Eastway, 32 miles): S Wright (Apollo RT), 1.10.00.

GOLF

JOHANNESBURG: Alfred Dunhill Challenge: Foursomes (South African scores first): E Els and A Johnstone halved with M Clayton and G Turner; N Price and M McNulty bt M Campbell and W Grady 3 and 2; D Frost and R Goosen lost to V Singh and L Parsons 1 hole; W Westner and F Allem lost to G Norman and R Allenby 1 hole. Result: South Africa 1½ Australasia 2½. Fourballs: Price and Frost halved with Singh and Parsons; Els and McNulty bt Clayton and Turner 2 and 1; Goosen and H Buhrmann lost to Norman and Grady 2 and 1; Allem and Johnstone lost to Allenby and F Nobilo 1 hole. Result: South Africa 1½ Australasia 2½. Singles: Frost bt Grady 6 and 5; Price bt Norman 1 hole; McNulty bt Nobilo 3 and 1; Els lost to Singh 3 and 1; Goosen lost to Parsons 2 and 1; Buhrmann halved with Clayton; Westner lost to Campbell 1 hole; Allem halved with Turner; Johnstone halved with Allenby. Result: South Africa 4½ Australasia 4½. Match result: South Africa 14 Australasia 11

PACIFIC PALISADES: Men's tournament: Third round scores (US unless stated): 200: K Perry 70, 62, 68. 201: C Pavin 67, 66, 68. 202: C Stadler 67, 68, 67; J D Blake 69, 67, 66. 204: S Simpson 70, 66, 68; B Estes 68, 66, 70. 205: L Wadkins 67, 72, 66; M Hulbert 71, 66, 68. 206: J Furyk 67, 74, 65; R Black 72, 68, 66; F Couples 69, 69, 68; B Mayfair 66, 72, 68; J Mudd 66, 71, 69

SYDNEY: Men's tournament: Final scores (Australian unless stated): 275: C Parry 69, 69, 72, 65. 278: W Smith 72, 68, 72, 66. 280: G Kenny 69, 68, 74, 69; P Moloney 75, 67, 71, 67. 281: P Senior 70, 70, 70, 71. 285: I Garbutt (GB) 71, 72, 70, 72

ICE HOCKEY

NATIONAL LEAGUE (NHL): New Jersey 3 Washington 2 (OT); Buffalo 3 Hartford 1; NY Islanders 3 Pittsburgh 1; Quebec 1 Boston 1 (OT); St Louis 3 Detroit 2; Philadelphia 7 Montreal 0; Florida 4 Ottawa 1; Toronto 5 Winnipeg 2; Los Angeles 4 Edmonton 3.

BRITISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Fife 5 Basingstoke 2; Humberside 4 Durham 5; Milton Keynes 5 Sheffield 8; Nottingham 10 Edinburgh 3; Peterborough 3 Bracknell 7; Whitley 3 [illegible] 5; Cardiff 6. First division: Blackburn 12 Lee Valley 5; Dumfries 4 Slough 10; Guildford 3 Chelmsford 6; Medway 3 Solihull 4; Swindon 9 Trafford 6; Telford 7 Paisley 10

LACROSSE

BERKHAMSTEAD: Women's senior territorial championships: East 10 Camb Univ 2; South 8 North 7; West 5 Midlands 2; East 11 North 2; West 9 Camb Univ 2; Midlands 9 North 1; South 5 East 3. Final standings: 1, South 8pts; 2, West 6; 3, East 6.

REAL TENNIS

QUEEN'S CLUB: University match: Oxford bt Cambridge 6-0 (Oxford names first). Doubles: First pairs: A Roberts-Miller and J Wilcocks bt N Baker and J Woodcock 6-4, 6-5, 6-3. Second pairs: C Rotherne and R Edwards bt T Bristowe and F Woods-Ballard 6-0, 6-0, 6-1. Singles: Roberts-Miller bt Baker 6-2, 1-6, 6-1; Rotherne bt Woods-Ballard 6-2, 6-2; Wilcocks bt Bristowe 6-5, 6-5, 6-0; Edwards bt Woodcock 6-4, 6-3.

JESMOND DENE CUP: Final: N O'Hagan bt S Sheridan 6-1, 6-1

ROWING

OXFORD UNIVERSITY TORPIDS: Men: Bumps: Second division: St Edmund Hall bpd New College. Third division: Lincoln bpd Lady Margaret Hall, Hertford bpd Wolfson, Exeter bpd Wolfson, St John's bpd Wolfson. Fourth division: Queen's bpd Jesus, Keble bpd Jesus, Trinity bpd Christ Church II. Finishing order: First division: Oriel, Brasenose, University, Pembroke, Magdalen, Christ Church. Second division: Worcester, St Edmund Hall, New College, St Catherine's, Balliol, Oriel II. Third division: Lincoln, Lady Margaret Hall, Wadham, Hertford, Exeter, St John's. Fourth division: Wolfson, Queen's, Keble, Jesus, St Peter's, Trinity.

Women: Bumps: First division: New College bpd Somerville. Second division: Pembroke bpd University, Oriel bpd University, Lady Margaret Hall bpd St Hilda's, Worcester bpd Trinity. Finishing order: First division: Osler House, New College, Somerville, Wadham, St Catherine's, Christ Church. Second division: Pembroke, Oriel, University, Lady Margaret Hall, St Hilda's, Worcester.

SHOOTING

OXFORD: Universities rifle championship (Southern Heat): Teams of 6: 1, London and Oxford 1,153; 3, Southampton 1,145. Individual: Men: N Mace (Oxford), G Barnett (London) and D Luckman (Bath) all 196.

Women: A Pilgrim (Oxford) 195

SKIING

WHISTLER: Men's World Cup: Downhill: 1, K Ghedina (It) 2min 11.31sec; 2, L Kjus (Nor) 2:11.42; 3, P Ortlieb (Austria) 2:11.52. World Cup downhill standings: 1, L Alphand (Fr) 384pts; 2, Ghedina 353; 3, A Assinger (Austria) 338. World Cup standings: 1, A Tomba (It) 1,050pts; 2, J Kosir (Sloven) 700; 3, M Girardelli (Lux) 614.

Nations' Cup standings (men and women): 1, Austria 6,722pts; 2, Switzerland 4,532; 3, Italy 4,445.

MARIBOR: Women's World Cup: Giant slalom: 1, M Ertl (Ger) 2min 16.88sec; 2, S Pretnar (Sloven) 2:17.03; 3, D Compagnoni (It) 2:17.13. World Cup giant slalom standings: 1, V Schneider (Switz) 421pts; 2, H Zeller-Baehler (Switz) 420; 3, A Wachter (Austria) 295. World Cup standings: 1, K Seizinger (Ger) 911pts; 2, Zeller-Baehler 831; 3, Schneider 774.

SLALOM: First leg: 1, M Ertl (Ger) 52.67sec; 2, V Schneider (Switz) 52.83; 3, D Compagnoni (It) 53.14; 4, U Hrovat (Sloven) 53.32; 5, P Wiberg (Swe) 53.55

SKI JUMPING

OBERSTDORF: World Cup ski-flying meet: 1, A Goldberger (Austria) 348.8pts; 2, R Cecon (It) 332.2; 3, J Weissflog (Ger) 328.6. Final standings: 1, Goldberger 1,571pts; 2, Cecon 935; 3, Ahonen 869.

SNOOKER

IRTHLINGBOROUGH: Dr Martens European league: J Parrott (Eng) drew with R O'Sullivan (Eng) 4-4.

SPEED SKATING

INZELL: World Cup: Men: 500m: 1, H Shimizu (Japan) 36.57. 1000m: 1, [illegible] 1:16.15. 1,500m: 1, R Ritsma (Holl) 1:57.48. Women: 1,000m: 1, E Hunyady (Austria) 1:22.33. 1,500m: 1, G Niemann (Ger) 2:6.46

SWIMMING

LEEDS: British Grand Prix: Men: 200m freestyle: 1, P Palmer (Lincoln P) 1:53.06. 400m freestyle: 1, P Palmer (Lincoln P) 3:58.52. 100m backstroke: 1, F Walker (Glasgow) 59.34. 200m breaststroke: 1, B McGinty (Beckenham) 2:27.41. 200m backstroke: 1, R Hope (Warrender) 2:10.42. 50m butterfly: 1, A Ripley (Sheffield) 25.83. 200m butterfly: 1, D Warren (Leeds) 2:06.25. Women: 50m freestyle: 1, S Rolph (Newcastle) 26.61. 400m freestyle: 1, K Goddard (Portsmouth N) 4:25.43. 800m freestyle: 1, V Horner (Derwentside) 9:06.18. 100m breaststroke: 1, K Fisher (Portsmouth N) 1:14.72. 50m backstroke: 1, Z Baker (Leeds) 31.42. 200m backstroke: 1, K Osher (Ealing) 2:18.49. 50m butterfly: 1, A Bennet (Nova Cent) & K Martin (Stirling) 29.22sec. 400m medley: 1, H Slatter (Warrington W) 4:59.65

TENNIS

STUTTGART: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: R Krajicek (Holl) bt M Damm (Cz) 6-2, 6-3; M Stich (Ger) bt B Becker (Ger) 6-0, 6-3. Final: Krajicek bt Stich 7-6, 6-3, 6-7, 1-6, 6-3

PHILADELPHIA: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: T Enqvist (Swe) bt A Agassi (US) 7-6, 5-7, 6-2; M Chang (US) bt P Haarhuis (Holl) 6-2, 6-0

EASTBOURNE: Men's tournament: Semi-finals: T Johansson (Swe) bt R Matheson (GB) 6-0, 6-1; M Navarra (It) bt A Strambini (Switz) 6-4, 6-4. Final: Johansson bt Navarra 6-2, 7-6.

LINZ: Women's tournament: Final: J Novotna (Cz) bt B Rittner (Ger) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4

RUGBY UNION

Pilkington Cup Quarter-finals

Bath	26	Northampton	6

Bath: Tries: Clarke, de Glanville. Conversions: Callard 2. Penalty goals: Callard 4. Northampton: Penalty goals: Grayson 2.

Exeter	0	Wasps	31

Wasps: Tries: Skinner 2, P Hopley, Hunter, Ufton. Conversions: Braithwaite 3

Harlequins	13	Wakefield	8

Harlequins: Tries: Challinor, Greenwood. Dropped goal: Greenwood. Wakefield: Try: Thompson. Penalty goal: Jackson

Sale	12	Leicester	14

Sale: Penalty goals: Turner 3. Dropped goal: Turner. Leicester: Try: Liley. Penalty goals: Liley 3

PILKINGTON SHIELD: Quarter-finals: North: Rushden and Higham 3 Queens (Bedford) 14; Wibsey 6 North Shields 15. South: Tredworth 3 Kingsbridge 6; Ilford Wanderers 11 St Albans 30

Courage Clubs Championship

Third division

Blackheath	24	Harrogate	0

Blackheath: Tries: Shadbolt, Harding, Ridgway. Conversions: Howard 3. Penalty goal: Howard.

Morley	28	Bedford	9

Morley: Tries: T Clark 3, Grayshon. Conversion: Grayshon. Penalty goals: Grayshon 2. Bedford: Penalty goals: Finnie 3.

Richmond	21	Clifton	14

Richmond: Tries: Greenwood, Thompson. Conversion: Gregory. Penalty goals: Gregory 3. Clifton: Tries: Navaluna, Wyatt. Conversions: Beresford 2.

Rosslyn Park	13	Otley	5

Rosslyn Park: Tries: Giffen, Steed. Dropped goal: Maddock. Otley: Try: Melville.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Blackheath	12	9	0	3	181	92	18
Bedford	11	8	0	3	226	142	16
Otley	12	8	0	4	214	132	16
Harrogate	12	6	1	5	169	215	13
Rosslyn Park	12	6	0	6	171	169	12
Morley	12	5	1	6	167	220	11
Rugby	10	5	0	5	156	154	10
Clifton	12	4	0	8	164	216	8
Richmond	12	3	1	8	159	200	7
Exeter	11	2	1	8	100	167	5

LEADING SCORERS: 143: A Finnie (Bedford; 10 conversions, 38 penalty goals, 3 dropped goals). 127: P Rutledge (Otley; 3 tries, 11c, 30pg). 104: S Howard (Blackheath; 7c, 28pg, 2dg). 91: J Grayshon (Morley; 1t, 7c, 22pg, 2dg). 80: S Hogg (Clifton; 7c, 17pg, 5dg). 78: D Clappison (Harrogate; 6c, 20pg, 2dg). 68: J Gregory (Richmond; 1t, 6c, 17pg). 50: J Quantrill (Rugby; 7c, 12pg).

Fourth division

Aspatria	19	Havant	18
Broughton P	16	Askeans	24
Leeds	16	Reading	23
Plymouth	17	Liverpool St H	17
Redruth	13	Rotherham	19

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rotherham	11	10	0	1	358	146	20
Reading	12	10	0	2	271	194	20
Liverpool St H	12	7	2	3	213	141	16
Havant	12	7	2	3	256	165	16
Leeds	12	6	0	6	180	163	12
Aspatria	12	6	0	6	173	225	12
Redruth	12	3	2	7	189	239	8
Plymouth	11	2	2	7	187	236	5
Broughton Park	12	3	0	9	125	240	6
Askeans	12	1	0	11	135	316	2

Fifth division north

Birmingham S	8	Barkers Butts	9
Kendal	28	Stourbridge	13
Lichfield	6	Preston G	3
Nuneaton	6	Winnington P	16
Sheffield	0	Walsall	61
Stoke	18	Hereford	9

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Preston G	10	7	1	2	155	102	15
Walsall	8	6	1	1	252	60	13
Kendal	9	6	1	2	184	134	13
Wharfedale	8	5	1	2	168	105	11
Stoke	10	5	1	4	145	134	11
Stourbridge	9	5	0	4	134	127	10
Winnington Park	8	4	1	3	108	144	9
Lichfield	8	4	0	4	116	125	8
Sheffield	9	3	0	6	124	177	6
Barkers Butts	9	3	0	6	73	180	6
Nuneaton	9	2	0	7	92	133	4
Birmingham S	8	2	0	6	113	159	4
Hereford	9	1	2	6	122	206	4

Fifth division south

Basingstoke	6	Henley	16
Berry Hill	16	Barking	15
Camborne	9	Tabard	14
High Wycombe	11	Met Police	3
Lydney	42	Sudbury	3
Weston-s-Mare	22	N Walsham	21

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lydney	9	8	1	0	190	80	17
London Welsh	9	7	2	0	283	92	16
Barking	10	6	0	4	169	145	12
Weston-s-Mare	9	6	0	3	140	121	12
Met Police	9	5	0	4	137	118	10
Tabard	9	5	0	4	172	161	10
North Walsham	9	5	0	4	156	146	10
Camborne	9	3	1	5	117	132	7
Henley	8	3	0	5	111	178	6
High Wycombe	9	3	0	6	104	185	6
Basingstoke	10	2	0	8	106	144	4
Berry Hill	9	2	0	7	95	185	4
Sudbury	9	2	0	7	117	211	4

LONDON: First division: Harlow 57 Southend 7; Maidstone 12 Ealing 24; Old Colfeians 29 Guildford and Godalming 30; Sutton and Epsom 22 Eton Manor 14. Postponed: Camberley v Ruislip; Old Mid-Whitgiftians v Esher.

SOUTH WEST: First division: Brixham 26 Maidenhead 10; Cheltenham 18 St Ives 0; Cinderford 16 Newbury 16; Gloucester OB 27 Torquay 10; Sherborne 38 Stroud 12. Postponed: Taunton v Barnstaple

MIDLANDS: First division: Burton 19 Westleigh 20; Derby 11 Towcestrians 25; Stafford 9 Mansfield 3; Whitchurch 22 Bedworth 3. Postponed: Camp Hill v Syston; Wolverhampton v Worcester

NORTH: First division: Hull Ionians 36 Durham City 14; Manchester 20 Bradford and Bingley 14; Stockton 6 Sandal 6; West Park Bramhope 3 Widnes 3; York 19 Huddersfield 13. Postponed: Wigton v Tynedale.

McEwan's League

First division

Currie	28	Jed-Forest	32

Currie: Tries: Blair, Ellis, Wilson. Conversions: Donaldson 2. Penalty goals: Donaldson 3. Jed-Forest: Tries: Amos, Kirkpatrick, C Richards. Conversion: C Richards. Penalty goals: C Richards 4. Dropped goal: McKenchie.

Edinburgh Ac	33	Heriot's FP	3

Edinburgh Academicals: Tries: Swanson 2, Hoole, Simmers. Conversions: Hay-Smith 2. Penalty goals: Hay-Smith 3. Heriot's FP: Penalty goal: Hewitt.

Glasgow HK	12	Gala	25

Glasgow High/Kelvinside: Penalty goals: G Breckenridge 3. Dropped goals: G Breckenridge. Gala: Tries: Moncrieff 2, Swan, Townsend. Conversion: Townsend. Penalty goal: Townsend.

Hawick	28	Stewart's Mel	10

Hawick: Tries: Renwick 2, T Stanger. Conversions: Welsh 2. Penalty goals: Welsh 3. Stewart's Melville FP: Tries: Kittle, Thomson.

Melrose	23	Dundee HSFP	20

Melrose: Try: Shiel. Penalty goals: G Parker 6. Dundee HSFP: Tries: Jardine, Smith. Conversions: J Newton 2. Penalty goals: J Newton 2.

Stirling Co	13	Boroughmuir	9

Stirling County: Try: Turner. Conversion: Logan. Penalty goals: M McKenzie 2. Boroughmuir: Penalty goals: Easson 3.

Watsonians	12	W of Scotland	13

Watsonians: Tries: Kerr 2. Conversion: Hodge. West of Scotland: Try: Shaw. Conversion: Barrett. Penalty goal: Barrett. Dropped goal: Barrett.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Stirling County	11	10	0	1	208	138	20
Watsonians	12	8	0	4	269	201	16
Boroughmuir	12	7	0	5	307	208	14
Edinburgh A	12	6	2	4	196	134	14
Melrose	11	7	0	4	265	208	14
Hawick	11	6	1	4	186	172	13
Gala	11	6	1	4	181	219	13
Heriot's FP	11	6	0	5	160	160	12
Glasgow HK	11	5	1	5	183	181	11
W of Scotland	11	5	0	6	156	204	10
Jed-Forest	11	4	0	7	172	218	8
Dundee HSFP	10	3	1	6	153	191	7
Currie	10	1	0	9	142	226	2
Stewarts Mel FP	12	1	0	11	151	289	2

Second division

Biggar	13	Corstorphine	13
Edinburgh W	3	Peebles	8
Glasgow Acads	30	Musselburgh	8
Gordonians	6	Kirkcaldy	22
Grangemouth	10	Haddington	0
Preston Lodge	29	Wigtownshire	19
Selkirk	17	Kelso	13

Swalec Cup Fifth round

Tenby Utd	3	Aberavon	6

Tenby United: Penalty goal: M Evans. Aberavon: Penalty goals: Watts 2.

Whitland	14	Mountain Ash (aet)	14

Whitland: Try: F Setaro. Penalty goals: Dawes 3. Mountain Ash: Try: Rowe. Penalty goals: Bennett 3. Penalty goal: M Evans. Aberavon: Penalty goals: Watts 2. *Mountain Ash win on away team rule.*

Heineken League

First division

Llanelli	37	Newbridge	19

Llanelli: Tries: I Evans 2, Proctor 2, D Wintle 2. Conversions: Stephens 2. Dropped goal: Stephens. Newbridge: Tries: P Crane, Gibbs, Withers. Conversions: Withers 2.

Neath	24	Bridgend	19

Neath: Tries: Reynolds, Thorburn. Conversion: McCarthy. Penalty goals: McCarthy 3, Thorburn. Bridgend: Tries: Forster, M Lewis, Wilkins. Conversions: Ball 2.

Pontypool	10	Cardiff	69

Pontypool: Try: Morris. Conversion: M Taylor. Penalty goal: M Taylor. Cardiff: Tries: Ford 5, C John 2, Davies, Hill, Jones, A Lewis. Conversions: Davies 7.

Pontypridd	77	Abertillery	0

Pontypridd: Tries: Manley 4, L Lewis 2, J Lewis 2, Jenkins, P John, K Jones, P Thomas. Conversions: Jenkins 7. Penalty goal: Jenkins.

Swansea	10	Newport	9

Swansea: Try: Reynolds. Conversion: A Williams. Penalty goal: A Williams. Newport: Penalty goals: G Rees 3.

Treorchy	53	Dunvant	20

Treorchy: Tries: A Jones 2, Lloyd 2, Bridges, Lewis, Owen, Riggs. Conversions: Lloyd 4, L Evans. Penalty goal: Lloyd. Dunvant: Tries: Hopkins 2, W Lloyd. Conversion: Booth. Penalty goal: Evans

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cardiff	18	15	0	3	534	215	30
Pontypridd	18	15	0	3	496	186	30
Neath	18	11	2	5	305	299	24
Bridgend	18	10	1	7	402	349	21
Swansea	17	10	0	7	367	286	20
Llanelli	18	9	0	9	370	315	18
Treorchy	17	8	0	9	361	258	16
Newbridge	18	7	0	11	243	355	14
Dunvant	17	5	1	11	226	407	11
Abertillery	18	5	0	13	260	532	10
Newport	17	5	0	12	247	343	10
Pontypool	18	4	0	14	242	506	8

Second division

Abercynon	10	South Wales P	10

Abercynon: Try: G Thomas. Conversion: Dixon. Penalty goal: Dixon. South Wales Police: Try: Hiscocks. Conversion: Price. Penalty goal: Price.

Cross Keys	17	Llandovery	27

Cross Keys: Tries: Gladwyn, Nicholls, L Watkins. Conversion: Bushell. Llandovery: Tries: Doel 2, James, C Jones. Conversions: Richards 2. Penalty goal: Richards.

Llanharan	15	Maesteg	16

Llanharan: Tries: Evans, Griffiths. Conversion: Morris. Penalty goal: Morris. Maesteg: Tries: Davey, Morgans. Penalty goals: Pearce 2.

Narberth	15	Penarth	10

Narberth: Tries: Davies, Matthews. Conversion: Howells. Penalty goal: Howells. Penarth: Try: Fifield. Conversion: Miller. Penalty goal: Miller.

Insurance Corporation League

First division

POSTPONED: Sunday's Well v Cork Constitution.

Second division

Univ Coll Dublin	8	Wanderers	9

Tour match

Leinster	17	N Transvaal	27

Representative match

Italy U-19	7	Wales U-19	33

Club matches

Bristol	12	London Scottish	6
Cambridge Univ	39	London Welsh	34
Fylde	38	Middlesbrough	20
Gloucester	35	Waterloo	16
London Irish	0	Saracens	0
Moseley	3	Orrell	48
Rugby	10	Coventry	10
West Hartlepool	35	Nottingham	29

RUGBY LEAGUE

Gary Connolly, the Wigan centre, looks for a way through the Batley defence during his side's emphatic victory yesterday. *Connolly, named man of the match*, scored one of Wigan's 11 tries. Photograph: Andrew Varley. Report, page 25

Silk Cut Challenge Cup

Fifth round

Saturday

Warrington	6	Oldham	10

Warrington: Try: Davies. Conversion: Davies. Oldham: Tries: Ranson, Faimalo. Goals: Marsh 4. Dropped goal: Gartland. Att: 5,500.

Sunday

Batley	4	Wigan	70

Batley: Try: Thornton. Wigan: Tries: Offiah 3, Paul 2, Cassidy, Clarke, Connolly, Edwards, Skerrett, Tuigamala. Goals: Botica 10, Paul 3. Att: 3,800.

Hull KR	14	Whitehaven	18

Hull Kingston Rovers: Try: Halafihi. Goals: M Fletcher 5. Whitehaven: Tries: Routledge 2. Goals: L Anderson 5. Att: 2,511.

Keighley	0	Huddersfield	30

Huddersfield: Tries: Austin, Hanger, King, Reynolds, Taylor, Thomas. Goals: Kerry 3. Att: 5,700.

Leeds	44	Ryedale York	14

Leeds: Tries: Fallon 4, Innes, Iro, Mann. Goals: Holroyd 5, Cummins 3. Ryedale York: Tries: Davis, Gascoigne. Goals: Precious 2, Dobson. Att: 9,473.

Salford	10	Featherstone	30

Salford: Tries: Lee 2. Goal: Tyrer. Featherstone: Tries: Aston, Divet, Rodger, Tuuta. Goals: Aston 6. Dropped goals: Aston 2. Att: 4,064.

Sheffield	7	Widnes	19

Sheffield: Try: Carr. Goal: Briggs. Dropped goal: Briggs. Widnes: Tries: Hadley, Hammond, P Smith. Goals: Hadley 3. Dropped goal: Hammond. Att: 4,000.

Workington	94	Leigh	4

Workington: Tries: Marwood 4, Fawcett 3, Mulligan 2, Pape 2, Burns, Ellis, Hepi, McGinty, R Phillips, White. Goals: Marwood 13. Leigh: Try: Sarsfield. Att: 3,436.

Stones Bitter Championship

First division

Wakefield	25	Castleford	36

Wakefield: Tries: Child, Flynn, Powell, Whitaker. Goals: Wright 4. Dropped goal: Wright. Castleford: Tries: Blackmore 2, S Flowers, Goddard, Kemp, Middleton, Nikau. Goals: Crooks 3, Steadman. Att: 4,463.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Wigan	20	19	0	1	706	270	38
Leeds	21	18	1	2	618	359	37
Bradford	23	14	1	8	594	430	29
St Helens	22	14	1	7	597	445	29
Halifax	21	13	2	6	553	360	28
Warrington	21	12	2	7	510	374	26
Castleford	21	12	2	7	554	424	26
Oldham	21	9	1	11	405	504	19
Salford	20	8	1	11	416	462	17
Workington	22	8	1	13	356	534	17
Sheffield	21	8	0	13	408	536	16
Wakefield	22	7	0	15	333	558	14
Featherstone	22	6	1	15	420	492	13
Widnes	20	6	1	13	261	470	13
Doncaster	22	5	1	16	360	644	11
Hull	21	3	1	17	388	617	7

Second division

Swinton	26	London B	38

Swinton: Tries: Hudspith 3, Ashcroft, T Barrow, Skeech. Goal: Hudspith. London Broncos: Tries: Heugh 2, Roskell 2, Liddell, Rosolen. Goals: Gallagher 7. Att: 768.

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Keighley	20	17	1	2	647	228	35
Whitehaven	20	15	0	5	528	338	30
Batley	21	15	0	6	455	278	30
Dewsbury	20	14	0	6	557	290	28
London B	21	14	0	7	490	331	28
Huddersfield	21	13	1	7	578	348	27
Hull KR	21	12	1	8	595	302	25
Rochdale	21	12	0	9	527	412	24
Ryedale Y	21	10	1	10	508	418	21
Leigh	20	10	0	10	439	446	20
Hunslet	21	10	0	11	407	562	20
Swinton	21	8	0	13	428	588	16
Bramley	19	6	0	13	384	371	12
Carlisle	21	4	0	17	333	661	8
Barrow	21	2	0	19	262	617	4
Highfield	21	1	0	20	158	1088	2

National Conference League

PREMIER DIVISION: Saturday: Leigh MW 36 Mayfield 26; Saddleworth 36 Hemel Hempstead 12; West Hull 8 Wigan St Patricks 18. Postponed: Heworth v Egremont. Sunday: Chorley 31 Dudley Hill 16.

RACING

KEMPTON PARK

Going: heavy

1.55 (2m hdle) 1, Balapak (A Maguire, 11-4 fav); 2, Taos (3-1); 3, Stoney Valley (50-1). 9 ran. 12l, 9l. D Gandolfo. Tote: £3.10; £1.60, £1.30, £6.80. DF: £4.70. Trio: £99.90. CSF: £10.13.

2.25 (2m ch) 1, Thumbs Up (M A Fitzgerald, 11-2); 2, Young Flagship (2-5 fav); 3, Spree Cross (11-2). 4 ran. 1l, 14l. N Henderson. Tote: £5.10. DF: £2.00. CSF: £7.91.

3.00 (2m 4f 110yd ch) 1, Brief Gale (P Hide, 4-1); 2, Kadi (7-4 fav); 3, Dancing Paddy (3-1). 7 ran. ¾l, 1½l. J Gifford. Tote: £4.70; £2.40, £1.30. DF: £3.60. CSF: £10.21.

3.35 (2m hdle) 1, Greenback (Peter Hobbs, 4-1); 2, Silver Wedge (40-85 fav); 3, Serious Danger (66-1). 7 ran. 30l, dist. P Hobbs. Tote: £4.20; £1.70, £1.20. DF: £1.90. CSF: £5.84.

4.10 (3m ch) 1, Val D'Alene (A Kondrat, 11-2); 2, Southolt (14-1); 3, Aslorin (12-1). One Man 2-1 fav. 9 ran. 20l, 15l. F Doumen (Fr). Tote: £5.80; £2.20, £2.30, £2.70. DF: £35.10. Trio: £69.50. CSF: £83.54. Tricast: £739.77.

4.40 (3m 110yd hdle) 1, Cyborgo (R Dunwoody, 8-11 fav); 2, Top Spin (5-1); 3, Bog Frog (9-4). 5 ran. 15l, 10l. M Pipe. Tote: £1.70; £1.20, £1.80. DF: £2.80. CSF: £4.64.

5.10 (2m flat) 1, Maitre De Musique (S McNeill, 20-1); 2, Oban (5-2 fav); 3, Baronet (8-1). 17 ran. NR: Falcon's Image, Monacan man. 8l, nk. A Turnell. Tote: £30.70; £6.20, £1.40, £2.90. DF: £95.90. Trio: £110.10. CSF: £74.51.

Jackpot: £7,967.00.

Placepot: £163.40. Quadpot: £6.00.

HAYDOCK PARK

1.00 1, Muntafi (5-1); 2, Zaitoon (6-1); 3, Inculcate (11-4 fav). 8 ran.

1.30 1, Sweet Duke (4-11 fav); 2, Valiant Warrior (5-2); 3, Barely Black (14-1). 3 ran.

2.00 1, Lemon's Mill (11-1); 2, With Impunity (8-1); 3, Count Master (4-1). Attadale 5-2 fav. 7 ran.

2.30 1, Nuaffe (4-1); 2, Riverside Boy (10-1); 3, Superior Finish (9-4 fav). 10 ran. NR: Earth Summit, Zeta's Lad.

3.05 1, Jack Button (10-11 fav; Private Handicapper's top rating); 2, Feels Like Gold (13-2); 3, Island Chief (7-1). 12 ran. NR: Mossiside.

3.40 1, Pariah (6-1); 2, James The First (7-2); 3, Dual Image (4-6 fav). 4 ran.

4.15 1, Dato Star (13-8 fav); 2, All Clear (3-1); 3, General's Orders (3-1). 8 ran.

DONCASTER

2.10 1, Scrabo View (14-1); 2, Must Be Magical (9-1); 3, Scud Missile (7-2). Bold Pursuit 3-1 fav. 18 ran.

2.40 1, Talbot (13-8 fav); 2, Celtic Town (13-2); 3, Master Boston (9-2). 16 ran. NR: David John.

3.15 1, Marlino (12-1); 2, Ozzie Jones (25-1); 3, Golden Hello (2-1 fav). 15 ran. NR: Emilymoore.

3.45 1, Blast Freeze (100-30 fav); 2, Top Cees (7-2); 3, Isaiah (11-1). 10 ran.

4.20 1, Puritan (7-1); 2, Magellan Bay (9-1); 3, Glasdale (20-1); 4, Newlands-General (6-1). Butler's Twitch 7-2 fav. 19 ran. NR: Cambo.

4.50 1, Sailors Luck (10-1); 2, Howgill (12-1); 3, Bucks Surprise (33-1). Hangover 3-1 fav. 11 ran.

5.20 1, Dark Phoenix (16-1); 2, Festive Lassie (8-1); 3, Halona (10-1). Flexwing 5-2 fav. 18 ran.

EDINBURGH

1.15 1, Tervel (5-2); 2, Know-No-No (5-4 fav); 3, Joe Jagger (50-1). 10 ran.

1.45 1, Integrity Boy (11-4); 2, Timanfaya (9-2); 3, Charming Gale (2-1 fav). 6 ran.

2.15 1, Diwali Dancer (4-5 fav); 2, Plumbob (9-2); 3, Johns The Boy (25-1). 5 ran.

2.45 1, Roc Color (6-4); 2, Beldine (10-11 fav); 3, Wait You There (14-1). 4 ran.

3.20 1, Rusty Blade (10-1); 2, Leading Prospect (9-2); 3, The Green Fool (7-1). Kenilworth Lad 3-1 fav. 11 ran. NR: Ski Lady.

3.50 1, Universal Magic (7-1); 2, Old Habits (3-1); 3, Down The Fell (16-1). Youandi 6-4 fav. 12 ran.

4.25 1, Gallardini (10-1); 2, Salinger (6-1); 3, Mr President (13-8 fav). 10 ran.

LINGFIELD PARK

1.50 1, Broughtons Turmoil (11-2); 2, Swallow Ridge (7-2 fav); 3, King Parrot (6-1). 12 ran.

2.20 1, Ultra Beet (7-4 fav); 2, Dolly Face (100-30); 3, C-Yer-Simmie (4-1). 7 ran.

2.50 1, Eastleigh (9-2); 2, Zahran (14-1); 3, Faba (9-2). Dome Patrol 3-1 fav. 11 ran.

3.25 1, Perilous Plight (5-2); 2, Present Situation (6-4 fav); 3, Mead Welcome (10-1). 7 ran.

3.55 1, Stoppes Brow (5-1); 2, Lord Sky (4-1 fav); 3, Croft Pool (9-1). 8 ran.

4.30 1, Princely Gait (9-4); 2, Sheltered Cove (2-1 fav); 3, Arc Bright (6-1). 12 ran. NR: Debacle

5.00 1, Carte Blanche (11-2); 2, Kedwick (15-2); 3, Song Of Years (6-4 fav). 10 ran.

POINT-TO-POINT

Saturday

BERWICKSHIRE (Friars Haugh): Hunt: 1, Merry Jerry (R Neill, 7-1); 2, Funny Venture; 3, King Spring. 6 ran. Confined: 1, Royal Stream (A Parker, 4-6 fav); 2, Bad Trade; 3, Run Lash Run. 12 ran. Ladies: 1, Sporting Mariner (Miss S Horner, 12-1); 2, Rushing Burn; 3, Steele Justice. 15 ran. Land Rover Open: 1, Royal Jester (C Storey, 2-5 fav); 2, Jimmy River; 3, Gunmetal Boy. 13 ran. Rest (Div I): 1, Wudimp (C Storey, 5-4 fav); 2, Hello Sensation; 3, Donovans Reef. 11 ran. Rest (Div II): 1, Hydropic (P Craggs, 20-1); 2, Rarely At Odds; 3, Tod Law. 15 ran. Mdn I: 1, Jigtime (R Robinson, 10-1); 2, Stavipoe; 3, Clive Branch. 15 ran. Mdn II: 1, Two For One (M Dun, 7-4 fav); 2, Luckeshiel; 3, Border Supreme. 18 ran. Mdn III: 1, Mont Mirail (R Shiels, 5-1); 2, General Delight; 3, Bit Of A Blether. 15 ran.

HURSLEY HAMBLEDON (Badbury Rings): Hunt: 1, Popeswood (D Dennis, 4-5 fav); 2, Little Island; 3, Minstrel Man. 4 ran. Confined I: 1, Smooth Escort (J Masse, 5-1); 2, Mister Christian; 3, Bansel Buccaneer. 9 ran. Confined II: 1, Bective Boy (M Batters, 20-1); 2, La Princesse; 3, Another Miracle. 10 ran. Ladies: 1, Qualified (Mrs L Boscawen, 4-6 fav); 2, Flame O'Frensi; 3, The Screamer Demon. 7 ran. Open: 1, Winnie Lorraine (P Henley, 4-6 fav); 2, See You There; 3, Coltrane. 8 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Panda Shandy (R Nuttall, 5-2 fav); 2, Pabrey; 3, Major League. 12 ran. Open Mdn (Div II, pt I): 1, Majestic Spirit (Miss S Vickery, 7-4 fav); 2, Fearless King; 3, Around And About. 9 ran. Open Mdn (Div II, pt II): 1, Birney Boy (R Nuttall, 6-4 fav); 2, Rbt Arienne; 3, Inky. 8 ran. Open Mdn III: 1, Drummer Boy (Dr P Pritchard, 5-1); 2, Rare Flutter; 3, Rinanna Bay. 9 ran. Rest I: 1, Young Brave (M Miller, 4-5 fav); 2, Harwell Lad; 3, Niki Su. 8 ran. Rest II: 1, Good For Business (T Mitchell, 7-4); 2, Baroness Spider; 3, Lets Rumble. 8 ran.

MID SURREY FARMERS DRAGHOUNDS (Charing): Hunt: 1, Bye Bye Baby (C Young, 25-1); 2, Wheal Prosper; 3, Bishop Swithin. 7 ran. Rest: 1, Nethertara (P Hacking, 8-1); 2, Country Vet; 3, Bright Crusader. 16 ran. Confined: 1, Roc De Prince (P Scouller, 5-2); 2, Sky Venture; 3, Tryumphant Lad. 12 ran. Ladies: 1, Treble Chance (Miss S Hanson, 10-1); 2, Durbo; 3, Beach Tiger. 8 ran. Open: 1, Magical Morris (P Hacking, 2-5 fav); 2, Golden Celtic; 3, Silver Cannon. 5 ran. Intermediate: 1, Yeoman Farmer (P Hacking, 5-4 fav); 2, Royal Haven; 3, Philgintown. 7 ran. Open Mdn I: 1, Dovehill (P Bull, 7-2); 2, Royal Rupert; 3, Robe Girl. 9 ran. Open Mdn II: 1, Celtic Blaze (C Coyne, 5-2); 2, Timber's Boy; 3, Taglio De Champfleau. 10 ran.

Yesterday

CRANWELL BLOODHOUNDS (Southwell): Hunt: 1, Just Molly (Miss M Lockwood, 5-2); 2, Hang Ten. 3 ran. Only two finished. Mdn I: 1, Missile Man (S Brisby, 8-1); 2, Doc Spot; 3, Aintree Oats. 14 ran. Mdn II: 1, Celtic Sage (D Esden, 7-2); 2, Meksharp; 3, Rock On Kelly. 12 ran. Mdn III: 1, Smart Beat (M Jones, 7-4 fav); 2, Dashmar; 3, Musical Mail. 13 ran. Mdn IV: 1, Ocean Rose (W Burnell, 5-2); 2, Rhymical Beat; 3, Miners Rest. 11 ran. Rest I: 1, Final Hope (Mrs F Needham, 9-4); 2, No Smoking; 3, Arm in Arm. 9 ran. Rest II: 1, Drummard (A Sansome, 6-4); 2, Ballyvoyle Bay; 3, Idling By. 4 ran. Confined: 1, Evercone (E Andrewes, 2-5 fav); 2, Kenalan Lad; 3, City Comment. 8 ran. Ladies: 1, General Highway (Mrs J Dawson, 2-7 fav); 2, Brown Baby; 3, Fettle Up. 9 ran. Open: 1, Wily William (N Wilson, evens fav); 2, Cawkwell Dean; 3, Royal Day. 12 ran.

SOUTHPOOL HARRIERS (Ottery St Mary): Hunt: 1, Bluechipenterprise (R Darke, Evens fav); 2, The Jogger. 4 ran. Only two finished. Maiden: 1, Mountain Master (Miss L Blackford, 10-1); 2, Bitter Revenge; 3, M-Reg. 12 ran. Open: 1, Olveston (G Turner, 6-4 fav); 2, Pintail Bay; 3, Skipping Tim. 7 ran. Confined: 1, Expressment (I Widdicombe, 16-1); 2, Sorrel Hill; 3, Little Coombe. 6 ran. Ladies: 1, Searcy (Miss L Blackford, 11-8 fav); 2, Treleven; 3, Ragtime Solo. 9 ran. Rest I: 1, Duke Of Absom (R Darke, Evens fav); 2, Tinkersbrook; 3, Remember Mac. 7 ran. Rest II: 1, Kalcore (P Scholfield, 13-8); 2, Oneoverthesight; 3, Doordelus. 6 ran.

☐ Saturday's meetings at North Herefordshire and Cambridge University were called off because of waterlogging.

SCHOOLS SPORT

FOOTBALL

NIE SCHOOLS UNDER-15 INTERNATIONAL: Northern Ireland 1 Wales 3.

LONDON CUP: Bedfordshire 2 Essex 2.

BURTON SHIELD: Wolverhampton West 1 Halesowen 1.

ENGLISH GIRLS SHIELD: Quarter-finals: Gravesham 3 Medway 1; Maidstone 1 Dartford 1.

LESTER FINCH SHIELD: Hackney 3 Tower Hamlets 1.

SURREY WOOD CUP: Under-13 semi-final: Croydon 3 South Surrey 0.

MILLER TROPHY: Vale of White Horse 1 Reading 2.

WEBSTER SHIELD: Gloucester 0 Wolverhampton 3.

SURREY GIBSON CUP: Under-12 semi-final: Merton 1 Croydon 0.

SURREY LANCASTER CUP: Under-11: Woking 2 Croydon 3.

ALCOCK CUP: Wirral 2 Halton 2

MERIT UNDER-15: Blackburn 1 Kirkby Knowsley 3.

INTER ASSOCIATION: Under-14: Liverpool 3 Tameside 2; St Helens 5 Pendle 2; Kirby Knowsley 2 Wigan 1. Under-11: Bexley 3 Brighton 0.

ENGLISH SCHOOLS 7-A-SIDE: Southwest finals: Swindon 2 Poole 2; Jersey 0 Slough 1; Torbay 0 Swindon 0, Jersey 1 Poole 0; Torbay 2 Slough 1; West Cornwall 0 Newbury 1; Oxford 2 Basingstoke 0; Bristol 0 West Cornwall 1; Newbury 1 Basingstoke 1; Oxford 0 Bristol 0; Swindon 0 Jersey 0; Slough 0 Poole 3; Jersey 1 Torbay 0; Swindon 1 Slough 0; Torbay 2 Poole 0; Basingstoke 3 West Cornwall 3, Newbury 2 Bristol 2; Oxford 1 West Cornwall 0; Basingstoke 0 Bristol 2; Oxford 0, Newbury 2. Semi-finals: Torbay 1 Oxford 0; Newbury 0 Swindon 3. Final: Swindon 3 Torbay 0. Northern finals: Leeds 0 Sheffield 0; Chester-le-Street 2; Stockport 1; Stockport 1 Chester 3; Leeds 0 Chester-le-Street 0; Sheffield 1 Chester 1; Leeds 1 Stockport 1; Chester-le-Street 0; Chester 0 Sheffield 0; Stockport 0 Leeds 2; Chester 0 Chester-le-Street 2; Sheffield 1 Bradford 2; York 3 Chorley 1; Wirral 3 Newcastle 0; Barrow 1 Bradford 2; Chorley 0 Wirral 1, Newcastle 0 York 1; Barrow 0 Bradford 1; Wirral 2 York 1; Newcastle 3 Chorley 0; Barrow 4 York 1; Wirral 3 Bradford 2; Barrow 2 Chorley 2; Newcastle 3. Semi-finals: Chester-le-Street 2 Barrow 0; Wirral 0 Leeds 0 (aet, Wirral win on count back). Final: Wirral 1 Chester-le-Street 1 (aet, Wirral win on count back).

HOCKEY

Dauntsey's 2 Dean Close 5

Shiplake 0 Merchant Taylors, Northwood 2

SEVEN COUNTIES TOURNAMENT: Under-13 boys: 1, Suffolk 17pts; 2, Lincolnshire 15; 3, Essex 12; 4, Bedfordshire 12; 5, Hertfordshire 11; 6, Norfolk 7; 7, Cambridgeshire 1.

JUDO

INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS' CHAMPIONSHIP: Juniors (under-14): 1, under 45kg B Ficken (Pangbourne Coll); 2, under 50kg D Bates (Douai); 3, under 55kg J P Mills (St Dunstan's). Intermediates (under-16): 1, under 55kg A Li (Harrow); 2, under 60kg J Daves (Winchester); 3, under 65kg A Kelly (Pangbourne Coll). Seniors (over 16): 1, under 60kg T Philip (Tonbridge); 2, under 65kg A Maherali (St Dunstan's); 3, under 71kg O Mould (Pangbourne Coll). Overall: 1, Pangbourne College (38pts); 2, St Dunstan's (21); 3, Winchester (16). Budokwai Trophy winner: C Yeats (Eton).

RUGBY UNION

France Schools 3 Wales Schools 15

HOCKEY

WOMEN'S INTERNATIONALS

Saturday: England 1 Scotland 0.

Yesterday: England 3 Scotland 1.

(both at Lilleshall)

MEN'S NATIONAL LEAGUES

FIRST DIVISION

Saturday

Firebrands 2 Slough 1

Surbiton 1 Cannock 3

Yesterday

Canterbury 2 Cannock 2

East Grinstead 2 Surbiton 1

Guildford 1 Reading 3

Havant 2 Firebrands 2

Hull 0 Hounslow 4

Indian Gymkhana 1 Southgate 5

Old Loughtonians 0 Teddington 3

Slough 2 Trojans 2

Stourport 1 Bournville 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Teddington	10	8	0	2	30	13	24
Southgate	11	6	4	1	33	17	22
O Loughtn's	10	7	1	2	29	14	22
Reading	11	7	1	3	21	15	22
Cannock	10	6	3	1	32	12	21
Hounslow	11	6	3	2	22	12	21
Guildford	11	6	1	4	35	20	19
Surbiton	12	5	3	4	19	15	18
Indian G	13	5	2	6	20	29	17
E Grinstead	11	5	1	5	21	17	16
Havant	10	3	4	3	17	19	13
Canterbury	12	2	6	4	26	23	12
Bournville	11	2	4	5	15	27	10
Hull	11	3	1	7	13	33	10
Stourport	10	2	3	5	13	21	9
Trojans	12	2	3	7	18	31	9
Firebrands	11	2	1	8	11	22	7
Slough	13	1	3	9	15	44	6

SECOND DIVISION

Saturday

Oxford University 2 Hampstead and Westminster 1

Yesterday

Doncaster 2 Neston 0

Edgbaston 3 Beeston 2

Gloucester City 2 Crostyx 3

Harleston Magpies 2 Isca 0

Richmond 2 Barford Tigers 2

St Albans 3 Brooklands 2

Whitchurch 3 Cambridge City 2

Sheffield 2 Bromley 4

REGIONAL LEAGUES

NASTRO AZZURRO LEAGUE: Premier division: Anchorians 5 Lewes 0; City of Portsmouth 0 Lyons 0; Dulwich 1 Chichester 3; Fareham 0 Old Whitgiftians 2; Gore Court 2 Staines 1; Maidenhead 1 High Wycombe 3; Old Kingstonians 3 Spencer 3; Oxford Hawks 0 Woking 1; Winchester 2 Wimbledon 1. Regionals: Kent/Sussex: Beckenham 2 Belvedere 2; Bexleyheath 2 Herne Bay 0; Blackheath 5 Gravesend 1; Bognor 1 O Williamsonians 2; Brighton 1 Crawley 1; Greenwich 1 O Bordenians 3; Mid Sussex 6 O Holcombeians 1; Sevenoaks 2 Horsham 2; Tulse Hill 1 Marden Russets 1; Tunbridge Wells 7 Middleton 1. Middx/Berks/Bucks and Oxon: Amersham 7 Headington 1; Aylesbury 0 City Of Oxford 2; Milton Keynes 1 Marlow 2; Newbury 4 Mill Hill 0; OMT 2 HCC 1; PHC Chiswick 0 Hayes 2; Ramgarhia 7 Hendon 2; Richings Park 1 Gerrards Cross 3; Sunbury 1 Eastcote 1; Wokingham 2 Bracknell 1.

NORWICH UNION EAST LEAGUE: Premier division A: Bishop's Stortford 2 Peterborough Town 3; Blueharts 4 Colchester 0; Cambridge University 4 Dereham 0; Chelmsford 1 Ipswich 2; Luton Town 2 Redbridge and Ilford 1. Premier division B: Bedford 3 Old Southendians 3; Ipswich 3 Romford 2; Norwich 4 Stevenage 2; Pelicans 0 Bury St Edmonds 1; Sudbury 1 Westcliff 0. First division: Clacton 3 Ford 2; Havering 0 Felixstowe 0; Huntingdon 2 St Neots 1; Peterborough Ath 1 West Herts 5; Rickmansworth 2 Harpenden 3; Spalding 1 Wisbech 3; Welwyn Garden City 0 Long Sutton 1; Witham 2 Wapping 0. Postponed: Royston v Brentwood.

DTZ MIDLAND LEAGUE: Premier division: Belper 3 Lichfield 1; Bloxwich 4 Khalsa 1; Leicester Westleigh 2 Harborne 4; South Notts 1 Hampton in Arden 1; Nottingham 2 Olton and West Warwick 3.

NORTH: Northern League: First division: Ben Rhydding 1 Warrington 1; Blackburn 2 Stockton 0; Harrogate 2 Formby 1; Southport 1 Hightown-Northern 2; Timperley 1 Norton 2. Second division: Alderley Edge 3 Wigan 0; Bowdon 6 Liverpool Sefton 2; Chester 3 Bradford 1; Disley 0 Springfields 1; Durham University 4 Halifax 1; Hull 0 York 1; Oxton 2 Wakefield 3; Stockton 0 Knutsford 1; Swalwell 6 Ramgarhia 3; Tynemouth 0 Sheffield Bankers 1.

WOMEN'S LEAGUES

CLUB MATCHES: Redland 0 Reading 3; Bracknell 2 Exmouth 1; Chelmsford 1 Wimbledon 1; Leicester 5 Ealing A 0; Poynton 3 Crimson Ramblers 2; St Albans 0 Woking 1; Sheffield 0 Sherwood 3; Trojans 1 Woking 3.

WOMEN'S COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIP: North (at Birkenhead): Saturday: Cheshire 1 Manchester Lge 0; Lancashire 2 Sheffield League 0; Manchester Lge 0 Lancashire C League 2; Cheshire 2 Humberside 2 (at Southlands): Northumberland 1 Durham 0; Yorkshire 1 Cumbria 0. Yesterday: Manchester League 0, Lancashire 2, Lancashire CL 1, Humberside 2, Sheffield League 1, Cheshire 5; Lancashire 0, Humberside 4; Sheffield League 2, Lancashire CL 6. (At Southlands): Northumberland 0, Yorkshire 2; Durham 2, Cumbria 0; Durham 0, Yorkshire 1; Northumberland 4, Cumbria 1.

EAST WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Bexleyheath 1 Old Loughtonians 6; Harleston M 2 Cambridge City 0; Redbridge 0 Welling GDC 0; Saracens 0 Seven Oaks 0. Standings: 1, Old Loughtonians 28; 2, Harleston 27; 3, Cambridge City 18.

WEST WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Cheltenham 1 Gloucester City 0. Standings: 1, Redland 9-25; 2, Cheltenham 10-22; 3, Wimborne 10-18.

SOUTH WALES WOMEN'S LEAGUE: Cwmtawe 0 Swansea II 1; Llan and Llan 0 Old Howardians 4; St Fagans 1 Risca 1. Standings: 1, Pontypridd 9-36; 2, Howardians 9-22; 3, St Fagans 10-22.

SNOW REPORTS

	Depth (cm) L	Depth (cm) U	Conditions Piste	Conditions Off/p	Runs to resort	Weather (5pm)	°C	Last snow
AUSTRIA								
Mayrhofen	10	90	good	varied	closed	cloud	5	26/2
(Piste skiing excellent in all areas)								
Söll	25	65	good	varied	poor	snow	3	26/2
(Good skiing above mid-stations; lowest runs worn)								
St Anton	100	420	good	powder	good	snow	2	26/2
(Excellent skiing but visibility restricted)								
FRANCE								
Alpe d'Huez	210	400	powder	powder	powder	snow	1	26/2
(Very limited visibility; prospects excellent)								
Les Arcs	200	460	powder	powder	powder	snow	4	26/2
(Deep snow everywhere; white-out conditions continue)								
Avoriaz	305	390	powder	powder	good	snow	4	26/2
(Excellent powder skiing below tree-line; poor visibility)								
Courchevel	220	320	good	powder	good	snow	1	26/2
(Avalanche danger very high; still snowing)								
Isola	60	100	good	powder	good	snow	1	26/2
(Good piste skiing with fresh snow on firm base)								
Tignes	260	300	powder	powder	good	snow	5	26/2
(Still snowing; visibility very poor; very deep snow)								
SWITZERLAND								
Arosa	110	140	good	powder	good	snow	5	26/2
(Excellent snow conditions; no queues)								
C Montana	310	400	good	powder	good	snow	1	26/2
(Skiing restricted by continuing snowfall; no queues)								
Verbier	100	230	good	powder	good	snow	1	26/2
(Superb powder skiing; avalanche risk high off-piste)								
Villars	90	305	powder	powder	good	snow	1	26/2
(Excellent prospects; 60cm of fresh snow)								

Source: Ski Club of Great Britain. L - lower slopes; U - upper; art - artificial

Women's basketball has a low profile and a cashflow problem, but it may replace netball at school, says **Alyson Rudd**

You don't have to be six foot to play — but it helps

SPORT FOR ALL

For a sport with lofty ambitions, it did not bode well. The Dr Martens Northampton 76ers were about to face the Sheffield Star Hatters in the semi-final of the Women's National Cup. On the *mezzanine* above the stadium bridesmaids and pageboys chased each other as the music from a wedding reception thumped away. The audience for the basketball looked like an extension of the marriage celebrations. Kids with drum kits and bugles made an incessant din and children without an instrument just shrieked.

It was, however, a misleading picture of chaos. The match was enthralling, pacy and fiercely contested and the spectators, even the youngsters, were appreciative. At half-time everyone in the audience left their seats to practise their shooting skills and then obediently left the court at the restart, more impressed than ever at the players' accuracy.

The English Basketball Association (EBA) wants the sport to replace netball in schools and aims to make basketball the top indoor sport over the next five years.

Men's basketball is, not surprisingly, more high profile; something women accept and try to use to their advantage. Most key fixtures are played in tandem with the men's equivalent, which has resulted in more TV and satellite coverage of the women's game.

Andrea Congreve, an England player, earns more than £50,000 a year, but she plays in Italy. Such is the cash gulf between the men's and women's game that the England women's team could not even afford to enter the European championship two years ago.

Nevertheless, women's basketball is growing, and attempting to improve its infrastructure so that interested girls and women will find it easier to track down a club in their area. Teacher training colleges are being targeted so that PE staff will want the game played in schools.

Dawn Hodge, women's officer at the EBA, says most women think they have to be six foot to play, when in fact most players are of average height. "The slam dunk [forcing the ball down through the net] does not exist in the women's game," she says.

Netball skills are transferable but basketball is more demanding. "You need speed and stamina, and dribbling has to be taught — you have to move without looking at the ball," Hodge says.

Jenny Collins, the women's director for basketball, says: "There is no comparison between basketball and netball. There is no restriction of court space, everyone can shoot and basketball is more physical. In netball you need seven players, you can play basketball with any number."

One of the stars of the Sheffield Star Hatters is the England player, Chris Castle, a six-foot local government research development officer. Castle switched from netball aged 16 under the guidance of a Canadian PE teacher. "It's an up-tempo game with a lot of diversity and you can play at any level," she says.

Castle stresses that as the game takes up all her leisure time it is important to be part of a team where there is strong camaraderie and the men accept the women as part of the club.

However, when it comes to taking a penalty shot, no amount of camaraderie can help. It is you facing the basket alone, trying to shut out the whistles of the crowd. Castle explains that such pressure is simulated at training by team mates having to go on runs if you miss a basket, but nothing can really prepare a player for the crunch moment.

The Hatters's coach is Betty Codona, who played in the first organised women's game in 1965. The women's game has "moved on a million years in terms of tactics," she says. "For the first ten or 15 years I went to just about any coaching clinic I could get to."

Her dedication has paid off and the Hatters, having defeated the 76ers, defend their title on March 5 at the Sheffield Arena.

[illegible]

☐ Anyone interested in playing women's basketball or in introducing it at school should contact Dawn Hodge at the EBA (0113 2361166).

☐ There are 300 registered women's clubs and most men's clubs have non-registered women's teams.

☐ Tickets for the cup final on March 5 are available from the Sheffield Arena box office on 0114 2565656.

JOHN ANGERSON

The Sheffield Star Hatters, pictured here playing against London Heat, are set to defend their title in the Women's National Cup on March 5 at the Sheffield Arena

A record 43,000 people entered last year's Swimathon

Thousands take the plunge

Charity may seem even closer to home now that conscience can be eased with a flick of the pound coin into the lottery fountain. Yet the days of the sponsored run, swim, hop skip and jump are by no means numbered.

Take the BT Swimathon, an annual event for the past nine years in which participation reached a peak last year: 43,000 people aged between eight and 80 took the plunge to swim the equivalent of thrice round the planet and raise £1.34 million for good causes.

About 30,000 people have registered so far for this year's event which takes place from March 2 to 5 at 519 pools around Britain. The format is *simple*: a 5,000-metre swim, or 200 lengths of a 25-metre pool, which can be taken on by individuals or teams of two to five people.

Swimmers are graded according to ability and, while the likes of Sarah Hardcastle, an Olympic medal winner, lead a fast lane of competitive swimmers and triathletes, most are aquatic joggers out to achieve personal goals. John Robinson, from Derby, needed to lose several pounds last year. The Swimathon helped him to do just that, and charities were rewarded with the £10,000 he raised.

This year, Greg Downing, a personal trainer from London, will wear a machine to monitor the number of times his heartbeat registers during the 5,000 metres. But the award for bravery goes to Anna Seymour, 15, of Cornwall, who intends to go the distance on butterfly.

Three charities will share 85 per cent of the proceeds this year: the British Heart Foundation, the British Lung Foundation and the Imperial Cancer Research Fund. The remainder will go to the British Sports Association for the Disabled, the British Paralympic Association and the UK Sports Association for the Mentally Handicapped.

CRAIG LORD

- *Call the Swimathon Hotline (0171-379 9595) for information.*

THE TIMES

Win tickets to see England v West Indies

England's Test stars are preparing for a demanding ten months of cricket including the Cornhill Insurance Test Series against the West Indies, followed by a tour to South Africa this winter and the 1996 World Cup in Asia.

Today *The Times* offers three readers the chance to each win a pair of tickets to the third day of any of the six Test matches against the West Indies this summer. Further prizes of copies of The Official 1995 Tour Guide, which will be available in May, will go to ten runners-up.

For your chance to see our batsmen and bowlers take on the might of Courtney Walsh and Brian Lara send your answers to the three questions, right, on a postcard to: *The Times* Test Match Competition, PO Box 6886, London, E2 8SP. The winners will be selected at random from all correct entries received by the closing date of March 10. Normal Times Newspapers competition rules apply.

Our three first-prize winners may choose to attend the third day's play at any one of the following Cornhill Insurance Test matches:

Headingley June 8 to June 12;
Lord's June 22 to 26;
Edgbaston July 6 to 11;
Old Trafford July 27 to 31;
Trent Bridge August 10 to 14;
Foster's Oval August 24 to 28.

TCCB

To book tickets for any of these matches (excluding Lord's) call the 24-hour Test Match ticket hotline on **0171 413 1413.**

QUESTIONS

1. In which year did England last beat the West Indies in a Test series?

2. Who hit the winning runs when England last beat the West Indies in a Test match in England?

3. When was the last West Indies tour to England?

GUIDE TO THE WEEK'S MAIN FIXTURES

TODAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

FA UMBRO TROPHY: Second round replay: Stevenage v Yeovil (7.45).
BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE: Premier division: Worcester v Dorchester.
KONICA LEAGUE OF WALES: Conwy v Flint Town.
GREAT MILLS LEAGUE: Premier division: Taunton v Chippenham.
AVON INSURANCE COMBINATION: First division: Brighton v Luton (7.15); Bristol Rovers v Millwall (at Yate Town); Swindon v Watford; Tottenham v Charlton (at St Albans City); Wimbledon v Oxford Utd (at Plough Lane, 2.0).
PONTINS LEAGUE: Second division: Birmingham City v Leicester (7.0); Mansfield v Preston (7.0).
JEWSON WESSEX LEAGUE: First division: AFC Lymington v Andover.
FA PREMIER LEAGUE: Under-19 trophy: Durham v Lancashire (at Royrolle FC). Under-16 trophy: Lancashire v West Midlands (at Chorley FC).

OTHER SPORT

BILLIARDS: Strachan British open championship (Wigan).
RACING: Southwell (flat, AW, first race 2.20), Newcastle (2.10), Plumpton (2.0).
SNOOKER: Dr Marten's European League: A McManus v R O'Sullivan (12.0); S Hendry v K Doherty (4.0); S Davis v J Parrott (8.0) (Irthlingborough).

THE TIMES
SPORTS SERVICE
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Commentary
Call 0891 500 123
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Call 0891 100 123
Calls cost 39p per min cheap rate, 49p per min at all other times

TOMORROW

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Bruges v Chelsea (at Olympiastadion).
UEFA CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Eintracht Frankfurt v Juventus; Lazio v Borussia Dortmund; Bayer Leverkusen v Nantes.
FA CUP: Fifth round replay: Wimbledon v Liverpool (7.45).
FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Ipswich v Newcastle (7.45).
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: Second division: Huddersfield v York; Oxford Utd v Stockport (7.45); Swansea v Blackpool. Third division: Barnet v Exeter (7.45); Bury v Torquay; Scarborough v Scunthorpe; Wigan v Hartlepool; Walsall v Preston (7.45)
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Northwich v Halifax (7.45).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Partick v Motherwell. Second division: Stenhousemuir v Berwick. Third division: Albion v Montrose; Cowdenbeath v East Stirling.
DIADORA LEAGUE CUP: Fourth round: Marlow v Hitchin.

OTHER SPORT

BILLIARDS: Strachan British open championship (Wigan).
RACING: Lingfield Park (flat, AW, 2.30). Catterick (1.50), Nottingham (2.10).
RUGBY UNION: Tour match: Ulster v Northern Transvaal (Ravenhill, 7.15).

WEDNESDAY

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CHAMPIONS LEAGUE: Quarter-finals, first leg: Bayern Munich v Gothenburg; AC Milan v Benfica; Barcelona v Paris Saint-Germain; Hajduk Split v Ajax Amsterdam.
FA CUP: Fifth round replays: Crystal Palace v Watford (7.45); Southampton v Tottenham (all-ticket).
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Millwall v Swindon (7.45). Second division: Bristol Rovers v Hull (8.0).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Second division: Meadowbank v Stirling.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Doncaster v Leicester (8.0).
BILLIARDS: Strachan British open championship (Wigan).
RUGBY LEAGUE: Stones Bitter Championship: First division: Salford v Leeds.
RUGBY UNION: Heineken League: Second division: Ebbw Vale v Llandovery (7.0). Club match: Cambridge University v Luddites (3.0).
RACING: Wolverhampton (flat, AW, 2.10), Taunton (2.0), Wetherby (1.50).

THURSDAY

FOOTBALL

EUROPEAN CUP WINNERS' CUP: Quarter-finals, first leg: Feyenoord v Real Zaragoza; Sampdoria v FC Porto; Arsenal v Auxerre (8.0).
UEFA CUP: Quarter-final, first leg: Parma v Odense.

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leopards v Manchester (7.0); London v Sheffield (8.0).
BILLIARDS: Strachan British open championship (Wigan).
RACING: Lingfield Park (flat, AW, 2.10), Leicester (2.20), Ludlow (2.0).
RUGBY LEAGUE: Stones Bitter Championship: Second division: Dewsbury v Keighley Cougars.

FRIDAY

RUGBY LEAGUE

STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Hull v Sheffield Eagles (Sky).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Leicester v Birmingham (8.0).
BOWLS: English women's national championships (Northampton).
RUGBY UNION: Under-21 international: Scotland v Wales (Inverleith, 3.0). Student international: Ireland v France (Longford). Tour match: Combined Irish Provinces v Northern Transvaal (Donnybrook, 3.0).
RACING: Southwell (flat, AW, 2.10), Kelso (2.20), Newbury (2.0).
SWIMMING: Great Britain clubs championship (Stockport).

SATURDAY

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 3.0 unless stated

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Aston Villa v Blackburn; Leeds v Sheffield Wednesday; Leicester City v Everton; Liverpool v Newcastle; Manchester Utd v Ipswich; Norwich v Manchester City; Nottingham Forest v Tottenham (all-ticket); Southampton v Coventry; Wimbledon v QPR.
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Barnsley v Oldham; Bolton v Southend; Burnley v West Bromwich; Charlton v Notts County; Grimsby v Swindon; Luton v Millwall; Middlesbrough v Bristol City; Reading v Watford; Sheffield Utd v Port Vale; Stoke v Derby. Second division: Brentford v Crewe; Bristol Rovers v Shrewsbury; Cambridge Utd v Brighton; Cardiff v Bournemouth; Chester v Plymouth; Huddersfield v Bradford; Hull v Birmingham; Leyton Orient v Oxford Utd; Rotherham v Peterborough; Wrexham v Blackpool; Wycombe v Stockport; York v Swansea. Third division: Barnet v Torquay; Carlisle v Northampton; Chesterfield v Bury; Colchester v Darlington; Exeter v Mansfield; Gillingham v Walsall; Hereford v Fulham; Lincoln v Hartlepool; Preston v Doncaster; Rochdale v Scarborough; Wigan v Scunthorpe.
GM VAUXHALL CONFERENCE: Kettering v Bath; Stafford v Telford; Stevenage v Farnborough (prov); Welling v Dagenham and Redbridge; Yeovil v Dover (prov).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Hibernian v Rangers; Kilmarnock v Dundee Utd; Motherwell v Falkirk; Partick v Hearts. First division: Airdrie v Raith; Clydebank v Ayr; Dundee v Hamilton; Dunfermline v St Johnstone; Stranraer v St Mirren. Second division: Berwick v Meadowbank; Brechin v Stirling; East Fife v Dumbarton; Greenock Morton v Clyde; Stenhousemuir v Queen of South. Third division: Albion v Arbroath; Alloa v Montrose; Caley Thistle v Cowdenbeath; East Stirling v Queen's Park; Forfar v Ross County.
FA UMBRO TROPHY: Third round: Enfield v Merthyr; Gateshead v Macclesfield; Ilkeston v Kidderminster (all-ticket); Marine v Boreham Wood; Morecambe v Altrincham; Runcorn v Hyde; Rushden and Diamonds v Halesowen; Yeovil or Stevenage v Woking.

RUGBY UNION

INTERNATIONAL MATCHES: Ireland v France (Dublin, 2.45); Scotland v Wales (Murrayfield, 2.30).
COURAGE CLUBS CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Bath v Gloucester; Bristol v Northampton; Leicester v Wasps; Sale v Orrell; West Hartlepool v Harlequins. Second division: Coventry v London Scottish, Fylde v London Irish; Moseley v Newcastle Gosforth; Wakefield v Nottingham; Waterloo v Saracens.

OTHER SPORT

ATHLETICS: Great Britain cross-country trials (Morpeth).
BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Derby v Leopards (8.0); Hemel Hempstead v London (7.30); Manchester v Worthing (7.30); Sunderland v Leicester (7.30).
BOWLS: England women's national championship (Northampton); Denny Cup inter-club championships (Lawson Park).
BOXING: World Boxing Council super-bantamweight title: Naseem Hamed (Sheffield) v Sergio Rafael Liendo (Arg) (Edinburgh).
RACING: Lingfield Park (flat, AW, 2.10), Wolverhampton (flat, AW, 7.0), Doncaster (C4, 1.55), Newbury (BBC, 1.0), Warwick (2.20).
RUGBY LEAGUE: Under-21 international: France v Great Britain (Albi, 4.0).
SNOOKER: Dr Marten's European League: S Hendry v J Parrott (12.0); S Davis v K Doherty (4.0); S Hendry v J White (8.0) (Irthlingborough).
SWIMMING: Great Britain clubs championship (Stockport).
TABLE TENNIS: English national championships (King's Lynn).

SUNDAY

FOOTBALL

FA CARLING PREMIERSHIP: Arsenal v West Ham (3.0); Chelsea v Crystal Palace (4.0).
ENDSLEIGH INSURANCE LEAGUE: First division: Sunderland v Tranmere (3.0); Wolverhampton v Portsmouth (2.55).
BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE: Premier division: Celtic v Aberdeen (3.0).

RUGBY LEAGUE

JOHN SMITH'S EUROPEAN CHAMPIONSHIP: France v Wales (Carcassonne, 3.0).
STONES BITTER CHAMPIONSHIP: First division: Oldham v Wakefield Trinity (3.0); Wigan v Workington Town (3.0).

OTHER SPORT

BASKETBALL: Budweiser League: Chester v Derby (6.0). National Cup: Final: Sheffield v Thames Valley (6.0).
BOWLS: English women's national championship (Northampton); Denny Cup inter-club championships (Lawson Park).
SNOOKER: Dr Marten's European League: J Parrott v K Doherty (2.0); J White v R O'Sullivan (7.0) (Irthlingborough).
TABLE TENNIS: English national championships (King's Lynn).

Fortune And Fame on road to recovery after training setback

Weld raises Champion Hurdle hopes

By Julian Muscat

ED BYRNE

Val D'Alene leads Zeta's Lad, far side, and Algan on his way to an emphatic victory in the Racing Post Chase at Kempton on Saturday

DERMOT WELD threw a lifeline to supporters of Fortune And Fame yesterday with an upbeat report on the *progress of* his injured Champion Hurdle candidate. The eight-year-old suffered a *knock to his near* foreleg last week, but Weld said he felt "positive" about having Fortune And Fame ready for the Cheltenham event two weeks tomorrow. The horse was *forced out of* contention at the eleventh hour 12 months ago after injuring himself in his box.

Weld said: "I'm satisfied with the progress of Fortune And Fame. *He took a hard rap* but I'm pleased to say the bruising has largely subsided. *Although he's not right* yet I am very hopeful he'll be ready to run his best race in the Champion."

Fortune And Fame, an easy winner of the AIG Europe Champion Hurdle at Fairyhouse four weeks ago, is to *have a quiet week with* exercise confined to spells in the swimming pool. The *offending limb is expected to* heal in time for the horse to have a serious schooling ses*sion in Ireland next weekend.*

David Nicholson endured a trying afternoon at *Kempton on Saturday* after Viking Flagship and Silver Wedge, both odds-on favourites, were unexpectedly beaten. "It was the worst ground I've experienced *in 40 years at Kempton*," Nicholson offered by way of explanation. "Silver Wedge *hated it. He is a good-actioned* horse but he had to have a run. He hadn't been out since January 7."

Balanak, who defied the conditions in the opening Dovecote Novices' Hurdle, usurped Silver Wedge at the front of Triumph Hurdle betting lists. David Gandolfo's recruit, now unbeaten in three outings, *stands at 5-1, ahead of* Anzum at 6-1 and Silver Wedge at 8-1.

As for Viking Flagship, Nicholson declared him in need of the outing after the horse just failed to concede 14lb to Thumbs Up. "He had not had a proper race *since he* won at Sandown in December," the champion trainer said. "He *had one yesterday*, and I've no doubt you'll see a different horse in the Champion *Chase on better ground*." Ladbrokes extended Viking Flagship to 5-2 for that contest, *a price he shares with* Travado and Nakir. Thumbs Up, meanwhile, is bound for the Grand Annual Chase.

François Doumen, always a potent force in the top steeplechases, was as good as his word in preparing Val *D'Alene* to perfection for the Racing Post Chase. The eight-year-old took full advantage of the falls of One Man, who brought down Amtrak Express, and Whispering Steel to *gallop away from Southolt* in the home straight.

The horse's owner, Marc de *Monfort*, trains a *string* of 30 horses in the west of France. He moved Val D'Alene to *Doumen's Chantilly* stable at the start of last year to take advantage of the better *facilities*. However, de Monfort's wife, Chantal, is adamant the *improving mudlark will not* contest the Grand National.

Val D'Alene's stablemate, *Algan, was hampered by One* Man's fall. He completed the course only after Philippe Chevalier *remounted* after parting company with the King George winner at the final fence. Doumen later insisted there is little between Algan and Val D'Alene. Both are bound for the Cheltenham Gold Cup.

One Man *remains in contention* for the same contest, although the popular grey has *now fallen on two consecutive* outings. In the absence of a suitable race his trainer, Gor*don Richards*, is to organise a thorough schooling session at a venue yet to be established. The odds are that Richards will also enter One Man for the Cathcart Chase, also run on the Thursday at Cheltenham, in advance of Wednesday's deadline.

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: **VIRKON VENTURE**
(4.10 Newcastle)
Next best: **Northants**
(2.40 Newcastle)

Saturday's results, page 32

Apply breeding hints to swamp bookmakers

JULIAN MUSCAT

Racing commentary

Mud, inglorious *mud: it* has clung, like ivy, to the hooves of our finest horses. *From Ascot to Wincanton*, they have slithered on their bellies for yards on end. Will *there be no respite* from the quagmires to have made a fool of our form book?

For these have been no ordinary quagmires. The turf has been churned by the horses, repaired, rained on, churned again, repaired a second time, rained on some more, and churned again. And so it goes on, week after week. Even noted mudlarks have been shipwrecked by this bout of endless rain.

Precious few horses can *perform in this mud.* Their identification has eluded us all — until now, that is. The *ticket to golden riches* is at hand. When assessing each animal, look out for the horse with the (Fr) suffix. Support him blindly, with bundles of cash, and you will be reaching towards untold wealth.

Kempton on Saturday: the 100-1 shot, Le Khoumf (Fr), defied his odds to finish fifth in the opener. Val D'Alene (Fr) landed the Racing Post Chase at 11-2; Antonin (Fr) and Algan (Fr) finished third and fifth in a field of nine. And Maitre De Musique (Fr) took the concluding bumper at 20-1 (30-1 on the Tote). There was one other French-bred on show at Kempton, but more of him later…

Why are French-breds so swift in the flying mud? Perhaps they are descendants of the chargers employed at the battle of the Somme. In truth, there is no answer. Many of them are unprepossessing individuals, with their angular gait, coarse heads, narrow frames and ungainly limbs. You would hesitate to part with a tenner for one at your local market.

Yet who cares when they can happily gallop through atrocious conditions? Who cares indeed, with Cheltenham fast approaching? In this space last week, my colleague, Richard Evans, informed you of his wagers in advance of the Festival. He must be banking on an imminent heatwave. In all his selections, the (Fr) suffix is *conspicuously* absent.

Here, therefore, is a wet weather forecast of what to expect when the *starting* tapes rise on March 15. Val D'Alene (Fr) for the Gold Cup, Nakir (Fr) *for the Champion Chase*, and either Banjo (Fr) or Sweet Duke (Fr) for the Sun Alliance Chase. *It is* testament to the certainty of my new-found theory that *form experts will endorse* their chances. And injury has robbed us of another certain *winner: Valfinet (Fr) for the* Arkle Trophy.

Now, about that other French-bred at *Kempton*: you might have been tempted to consider Bog Frog. He had run regularly in France, where he is trained. He boasted winning form in *heavy ground*. With these credentials he simply had to win.

He *sunk without* trace, as he was obliged to do. For the racecard revealed Bog Frog *to be bred in Ireland.* He suffered his defeat at the hands of Cyborgo, who was, *of course, bred in France.* No five-year-old has ever landed the Stayers' Hurdle at Chel*tenham*, yet who'd bet against Cyborgo (Fr) in this season of glorious mud?

NEWCASTLE

THUNDERER

2.10 Doman
2.40 Countorus
3.10 GREAT EASEBY (nap)
3.40 *Ceilidh Boy*
4.10 Virkon Venture
4.40 Grey Power

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 4.40 ANOTHER DYER.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 4.10 Virkon Venture.

GUIDE TO OUR IN-LINE CARD

103 (12) 113143 GOOD TIMES 13 (BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 12-0 …… B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing; F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO SOFT (SOFT IN PLACES ON HURDLES COURSE) SIS

2.10 DALTON SELLING HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,053: 2m 4f) (17 runners)

1	551303	VERY EVIDENT 30 (D,S) (Mrs S Moore) G Moore 6-11-13	J Callaghan	[illegible]
2	465352	CHEEKY POT 20 (V,D,F,S) (P & J Darling) Denys Smith 7-11-9	P Niven	[illegible]
3	0-00036	KIR 72 (B,D,F,G) (L Ownden) V Thompson 7-11-7	Mr M Thompson	[illegible]
4	314-P-0P	KIRSTENBOSCH 30 (F,G) (Mrs B Lungo) L Lungo 8-11-6	T Reed	[illegible]
5	00/6510	DOMAN 48 (S) (W Lofthouse) Jimmy Fitzgerald 6-10-11	[illegible]	–
6	660524	UPWELL 101 (D,F) (R Johnson) R Johnson 11-10-11	K Johnson	[illegible]
7	F5U210	SAKURA 7 (C,BF,F,G) (D Kay Racing) M Hammond 4-10-10	[illegible]	[illegible]
8	1005-F0	HERE COMES TIBBY 20 (S) (Mrs E Hislop) W Reed 8-10-9	B Storey	[illegible]
9	5PP-2	QUIET MISTRESS 21 (R Bothell) W Bothell 5-10-8	A S Smith	[illegible]
10	5336U4	LOVING OMEN 20 (S) (Mrs F Buchanan) Miss Z Green 8-10-8	A Larnach (3)	[illegible]
11	085F0-0	MILL DE LEASE 74F (D,F,G) (J Dooler) J Dooler 10-10-6	[illegible]	–
12	P33480	TROPNEVAD 25 (V) (J Davenport) J Jefferson 7-10-5	L Wyer	[illegible]
13	0F0045	MISS JEDD 20 (S) (W Young) W Young 5-10-1	R McGrath (3)	[illegible]
14	/2/04	HIGHLAND PARK 38 (R Craggs) R Craggs 9-10-1	A [illegible]	[illegible]
15	000P	TYRED N'EXHAUSTED 7 (M Edgar) L Lungo 4-10-1	F Perratt (5)	–
16	005-054	YACHT CLUB 25 (F) (E Spencer) J Eyre 13-10-1	D Parker	[illegible]
17	PP-0PPF	CORBY KNOWE 16 (L Grant) J Barclay 9-10-0	A Thornton	–

Long handicap: Corby Knowe 9-9.

BETTING: 9-2 Cheeky Pot, 5-1 Very Evident, Quiet Mistress, 6-1 Kir, 10-1 Loving Omen, 12-1 others.

1994: MEETING ABANDONED — FROST

FORM FOCUS

VERY EVIDENT 2¾l 3rd of 16 to Nicholas Plant in conditional jockeys selling handicap hurdle at Ayr (2m 4f, soft) with MISS JED (4lb better off) 20l 4th, KIRSTENBOSCH (4lb better off) pulled up before 7th and LOVING OMEN (2lb better off) unseated rider 4 out. CHEEKY POT 2¾l 2nd of 13 to Mecado in selling handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f, heavy) with LOVING OMEN (1lb better off) 10½l 4th and HERE COMES TIBBY (7lb better off) 53l 12th. SAKURA beat Super Sense 2½l in 13-runner selling hurdle here (2m 110yd, good to soft) on penultimate start, with MISS JED (15lb worse off) 8½l 7th. QUIET MISTRESS 3½l 2nd to [illegible] in selling handicap hurdle at Market Rasen (2m, good to soft). HIGHLAND PARK 16½l 4th of 13 to Bold Pursuit in conditional jockeys selling handicap hurdle at Catterick (2m 3f, soft) with YACHT CLUB 19½l 5th, LOVING OMEN (3lb better off) [illegible] and KIRSTENBOSCH (2lb better off) 41l 10th.
Selection: CHEEKY POT

2.40 WHALTON NOVICES CHASE (£4,004: 2m 4f) (4 runners)

1	210-313	NORTHANTS 20 (BF,G,S) (C Renwick) W Storey 9-12-0	N Bentley	[illegible]
2	44F4-13	COUNTORUS 9 (G,S) (M Thompson) J Johnson 9-11-10	A Maguire	[illegible]
3	0264U6	BELLS HILL LAD 20 (S) (Mrs K Collins) J Barclay 8-11-4	A Thornton	–
4	P0/PP	WOLFSVILLE 28 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 7-11-4	J Burke	–

BETTING: 4-6 Northants, 11-10 Countorus, 14-1 Bells Hill Lad, 33-1 Wolfsville.

FORM FOCUS

NORTHANTS beat Unguided Missile 11l in 6-runner novice chase at Haydock (3m, soft) on penultimate start. COUNTORUS 4½l 3rd of 10 to High Alltitude in novice chase here (2m 110yd, good to soft). BELLS HILL LAD beat Miami Bear 24l 4th of 11 to Sarsoof in handicap hurdle at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, soft).
Selection: NORTHANTS (nap)

3.10 STANTON HANDICAP HURDLE (£2,337: 3m) (10 runners)

1	211-80P	BUSTINO 25 (D,G,S) (Cadz Ltd) W Cunningham 9-11-10	W Fry (7)	91
2	1F53F-0	VRYBUA 9 (C,G,S) (J Hellens Ltd) J Hellens 10-11-7	T Reed	–
3	613-101	GREAT EASEBY 9 (CD,S) (D Batey) W Storey 5-11-0	R McGrath (7)	93
4	2-4F250	LION OF VIENNA 23 (D,S) (J Mason) T Carr 8-10-11	Richard Guest	96
5	312/4P-	TRES AMIGOS 356 (F,S) (The Amigos Partnership) J Johnson 8-10-10	A Larnach (3)	–
6	5/-6	DASHING DULA 83 (F) (Mrs J Ashen) Mrs M Reveley 9-10-9	N Smith	[illegible]
7	623233	MALAWI 45 (B) (R Bothell) W Bothell 5-10-9	A Maguire	[illegible]
8	P4F0/33-	WESTWELL BOY 402 (G) (D Yeadon) P Beaumont 9-10-1	C Hawkins	–
9	P4F5P1	MISS CAPULET 20 (B,D,G,S) (C P Racing) T Donnelly 8-10-0	T Eley (3)	[illegible]
10	003043	WHITE DIAMOND 9 (D,F,S) (M Allison) Mrs A Swinbank 7-10-0	D Gallagher	83

Long handicap: Miss Capulet 9-13, White Diamond 9-10.

BETTING: 3-1 Great Easeby, 4-1 Malawi, 6-1 Bustino, Miss Capulet, 8-1 Vrybua, Dashing Dula, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

GREAT EASEBY beat Temple Garth 9l in 12-runner conditional jockeys handicap hurdle over course and distance (good to soft) with WHITE DIAMOND (3lb better off) 4l 3rd. LION OF VIENNA beat recent [illegible] 10l 2nd of 13 to Tony Murphys Lady in handicap hurdle at Nottingham (3m 4f, good to soft). DASHING DULA 21¼l 6th of 12 to Memorable in handicap hurdle at Sedgefield (2m 5f 110yd, good to soft). MALAWI 6l 3rd to Rosina Mae in novice handicap hurdle at Ascot (3m, good). MISS CAPULET beat Dorlin Castle 3l in conditional jockeys handicap hurdle at Carlisle (3m 110yd, heavy) with WHITE DIAMOND (3lb better off) 27l 4th.
Selection: GREATY EASEBY

3.40 OLD APPLEJACK HANDICAP CHASE (£4,221: 3m) (9 runners)

1	0-16224	OVER THE DEEL 24 (C,D,BF,F,G,S) (G Tobitt) J Johnson 9-11-13	A Maguire	93
2	354830	ARMAGRET 9 (B,C,D,F,G,S) (Mrs R Wilkinson) B Wilkinson 10-11-7	D Bentley	96
3	44-1112	TARTAN TRADEWINDS 53 (CD,G,S) (Mackinnon Mills) G Richards 8-11-4	A Dobbin	91
4	122332	HABTON WHIN 44 (G) (C Stevens) M H Easterby 9-11-1	L Wyer	94
5	351-231	CHOCTAW 98 (F,G,S) (J Yeadon) P Beaumont 11-10-13	C Hawkins	92
6	102414	CEILIDH BOY 30 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs J Goodfellow) Mrs J Goodfellow 9-10-11	B Storey	[illegible]
7	14-4P0S	ROAD BY THE RIVER 24 (CD,G,S) (T McDonagh Ltd) P Cheesbrough 7-10-8	M Dwyer	91
8	355231	PRINCE YAZA 25 (F,G,S) (Mrs M Curtis) J Curtis 8-10-8	L O'Hara	97
9	P21-F11	SON OF IRIS 25 (F,G) (MHG Systems Ltd) Mrs M Reveley 7-10-8	P Niven	90

BETTING: 11-4 Tartan Tradewinds, 7-2 Son Of Iris, 5-1 Habton Whin, 6-1 Choctaw, 7-1 Ceilidh Boy, 8-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

OVER THE DEEL 28l 2nd to La Sengone in handicap chase at Newbury (3m 2f 110yd, heavy) on penultimate start. TARTAN TRADEWINDS 6l 2nd to Eastern Oasis in handicap chase at Ayr (3m 3f 110yd, soft). HABTON WHIN 2½l 2nd to Uranus Collonges in handicap chase here (3m 6f, good). CHOCTAW beat Pink Gin 13l in conditional jockeys handicap chase at Catterick (3m 1f 110yd, good). *CEILIDH BOY beat Brackenfield 8l in handicap* chase at Carlisle (3m, soft) on penultimate start, with ROAD BY THE RIVER (7lb better off) 8½l 5th. PRINCE YAZA beat Magic Rain 1½l in handicap chase at Sedgefield (3m 3f, good to soft). SON OF IRIS beat Integrity Boy ½l in novice handicap chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good).
Selection: TARTAN TRADEWINDS

4.10 KINGSTON PARK MAIDEN HURDLE (£2,495: 2m 110yd) (21 runners)

1	25-05	ABBEYLANDS 9 (C Heron) J Johnson 7-11-5	A Maguire	93
2		BILLSBROOK (R Brewis) R Brewis 5-11-5	Mr A Robson	–
3	0F5	GEMIKOSIK 9 (Mrs K Walton) Mrs K Walton 5-11-5	J Callaghan	77
4	1-	GENERAL CHAOS 169F (C Stevens) J J O'Neill 5-11-5	M Dwyer	–
5	0-P000P	HEDDON HAUGH 21 (I Cheesbrough) P Cheesbrough 7-11-5	A Thornton	–
6	0-	KINGS MINSTRAL 139 (Exors of Mr R Lamb) D Lamb 5-11-5	Mr A Manners (7)	–
7	0-6	MATACHON 178 (M Smith) M Smith 5-11-5	G Harker	–
8		MINI CRUISE (J Hirst) J Johnson 5-11-5	F Leahy (5)	–
9		MOUNTAIN HIGH 230F (P Coulter) Jimmy Fitzgerald 5-11-5	D Byrne	–
10	5	RYE CROSSING 37 (C Stevens) M H Easterby 5-11-5	L Wyer	–
11	0	SUPERTOP 9 (R Gilbert) L Lungo 7-11-5	T Reed	–
12	236/052	VIRKON VENTURE 48 (R Auchincloss) M Tompkins 7-11-5	D Gallagher	[illegible]
13	50P-035	BOOORE 142 (F Jestin) D Nolan 7-11-0	N Leach	75
14		CRAMONA 14F (G Renilson) W Storey 5-11-0	J Supple (5)	–
15	00-6P	SCILLY CAY 16 (Mrs D Whitaker) G Richards 6-11-0	A Dobbin	–
16	4-006	TACTIX 20 (D Teesdale) Miss M Milligan 5-11-0	Richard Guest	–
17		BURRINGHAM BOY 298F (Mrs A Bosnell) B Rothwell 4-10-9	R Supple	–
18		FEARLESS WONDER 7F (W Davies) Mrs M Reveley 4-10-9	P Niven	–
19		OBVIOUS RISK 243F (Mrs M Kendall) Mrs M Kendall 4-10-9	Mrs M Kendall	–
20	P	MILLIES IMAGE 42 (M Ford) M Barnes 4-10-4	G Cahill (7)	–
21	F0	SALLYOREALLY 24 (Mrs B Storey) W Storey 4-10-4	K Johnson	–

BETTING: 2-1 Virkon Venture, 5-1 Fearless Wonder, 7-1 Abbeylands, General Chaos, 8-1 Supertop, 10-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

ABBEYLANDS about 9½l 5th of 16 to House *Captain in novice hurdle here (2m 4f, good to soft).* GEMIKOSIK 24l 5th of 24 to Forbidden Time in *novice hurdle over course and distance (good to soft)* with SUPERTOP 8l 10th. RYE CROSSING about 20l 5th of 17 to Go-Informal in National Hunt Flat race at Haydock (2m, heavy). VIRKON VENTURE 4l 2nd of 11 to Great Marquess in novice hurdle at Leicester (2m, soft). BOOORE 22½l 3rd *of 4 to Palm House in handicap hurdle at Kelso* (2m 6f 110yd, firm) on penultimate start. SCILLY CAY *42½l 6th of 12 to Certainly Strong in novice hurdle* at Haydock (2m, good to soft) on penultimate start. FEARLESS WONDER 8l 2nd to Salvez in handicap at Southwell (AW, 1m 3f) on the Flat.
Selection: ABBEYLANDS

4.40 JESMOND HANDICAP CHASE (£2,840: 2m 4f) (10 runners)

1	222465-	RUN PET RUN 313 (D,G,S) (J Best) D Nolan 10-11-10	N Doughty	95
2	663-312	GREY POWER 68 (BF,F,S) (A Frame) Mrs M Reveley 8-11-9	P Niven	91
3	P/0021/	BUCK OWENS 702 (F) (Mrs S Johnson) J Johnson 10-11-7	A Maguire	–
4	424521	BULA NUDAY 23 (D,S) (Colonel D Greig) J Oliver 10-11-4	B Storey	92
5	/P/P551	ANOTHER DYER 20 (D,S) (Mackinnon Mills) L Lungo 11-11-1	T Reed	[illegible]
6	501P	*FORDSTOWN 16 (G) (J Alexander) J Barclay 6-10-11*	A Thornton	80
7	553P52	OLE OLE 20 (F,S) (Mrs E Moscrop) Mrs E Moscrop 9-10-11	K Johnson	98
8	6RU443	*HEATHVIEW 21 (F,G) (W Hancock) Jimmy Fitzgerald 8-10-7*	*M Dwyer*	94
9	PP23-26	HIGHLAND RALLY 27 (K Hanson) M Avison 8-10-6	R Garritty	95
10	0/232-PP	CAMAN 39 (Mrs B Bill) B Rothwell 8-10-0	R Supple	86

Long handicap: Caman 9-12.

BETTING: 9-4 Grey Power, 3-1 Another Dyer, 7-1 Ole Ole, Buck Owens, 8-1 Bula Nuday, Heathview, 12-1 others.

FORM FOCUS

RUN PET RUN 56½l 5th of 10 to Glenshane Lad in handicap chase at Perth (3m, good to firm). GREY POWER beat Beauchamp Grace 3½l in novice chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good to soft) on penultimate start. BUCK OWENS beat Distant Cherry 12l in novice chase at Sedgefield (3m 3f, good to firm) March 1993. BULA NUDAY beat Cool Weather 1l in novice chase at Wetherby (2m 4f 110yd, soft). ANOTHER DYER beat OLE OLE (3lb better off) 9l in 7-runner handicap chase at Carlisle (2m 4f 110yd, heavy). FORDSTOWN beat Garcall 25l in 11-runner maiden chase at Sedgefield (2m 5f, good) on penultimate start.
Selection: ANOTHER DYER

LEADERS OVER THE JUMPS

TRAINERS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Days since win	Level stakes
M Pipe	86	70	41	1	-31.58
D Nicholson	75	45	28	5	+19.21
Mrs M Reveley	71	44	33	8	-9.25
P Hobbs	58	46	29	1	-29.50
N Twiston-Davies	55	52	44	1	-47.75
K Bailey	46	38	29	3	+40.98
J White	39	35	26	3	-6.21
J Gifford	33	25	19	1	-22.48

JOCKEYS

	1st	2nd	3rd	Losing sequence	Level stakes
A Maguire	117	88	85	5	-86.04
R Dunwoody	116	83	64	1	-58.63
N Williamson	82	65	61	7	-14.12
J Osborne	78	56	47	3	-54.64
P Niven	70	49	35	4	+5.17
D Bridgwater	53	33	35	0	+38.48
W Marston	49	28	29	14	+36.01
M Dwyer	47	57	29	15	-43.46

SOUTHWELL

THUNDERER

1.50 Beecham. 2.20 Zacaroon. 2.50 Poly Lane. 3.20 Barti-Ddu. 3.50 Handmaiden. 4.20 Domybly. 4.50 Quinzii Martin.

Our Newmarket Correspondent:
1.50 BEECHAM (nap). 4.50 On Y Va.

GOING: STANDARD SIS
DRAW: 6F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

1.50 APENNINES SELLING HANDICAP
(Div I: £2,259: 6f) (10 runners)

101	(2)	-034	SENSE OF PRIORITY 21 (CD,F,G) M H Easterby 6-10-0	K Darley	87
102	(5)	4206	WAVERLEY STAR 4 (C,D,G) K Cunningham-Brown 10-9-0	L Charnock	92
103	(7)	-046	BRISAS 21 (CD,F,G) C Fairhurst 8-9-0	J Fanning	87
104	(3)	6-10	BECKYHANNAH 23 (B,D,G,S) R Bastiman 5-8-10	Dean McKeown	94
105	(9)	4000	MONSIEUR PETONG 7 (D,G) J Parkes 4-8-10	P McCabe (5)	98
106	(4)	56-2	BEECHAM 12 (B) A Hide 3-8-6	J Quinn	[illegible]
107	(10)	50/	PRETTY CHIC 528 (G) D Chapman 6-8-2	C Teague (7)	–
108	(8)	0-00	*LAST STRAW 31 (B,CD,G) B Preece 7-8-2*	G Duffield	90
109	(1)	3601	JOYFUL TIMES 17 (CD,G) Mrs N Macauley 3-8-1	Amanda Sanders (7)	89
110	(6)	-050	PRECIOUS TIMES 9 M Meagher 3-8-0	S Sanders (3)	86

3-1 Beecham, 7-2 Sense Of Priority, Joyful Times, 5-1 Waverley Star, 6-1 Brisas, 7-1 Beckyhannah, 8-1 Precious Times, 10-1 others.

2.20 ALPS HANDICAP (£3,124: 1m) (11)

201	(1)	4-36	SANDMOOR DENIM 49 (CD,F,G) S Bowring 8-10-0	C Teague (7)	92
202	(4)	-455	BRACKENTHWAITE 35 (CD,G) L Lloyd-James 5-9-11	J Stack (5)	98
203	(7)	4113	ROAR ON TOUR 14 (CD,BF,G) Mrs M Reveley 6-9-10	K Darley	96
204	(8)	1193	SHUTTLECOCK 10 (CD,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 4-9-10	M Fenton	96
205	(9)	00-0	MAROWINS 14 (C,D,G) E Alston 6-9-6	J Quinn	87
206	(11)	2-56	DESERT INVADER 13 (S) D Chapman 4-9-5	Dean McKeown	90
207	(3)	0-53	ZACAROON 13 (V,G) Lord Huntingdon 4-9-4	D Harrison	96
208	(10)	00-3	ZANZARA 14 (F) Mrs V Aconley 4-9-2	T Williams	90
209	(6)	-032	MAJOR MOUSE 7 (D,F,G) W Haigh 7-8-11	Dale Gibson	[illegible]
210	(5)	1520	*RAGAZZO 16 (B,G) K Cunningham-Brown 5-8-7*	L Charnock	93
211	(2)	041-	SLYTLY BEVELED 108 (G) N Littmoden 3-7-13	N Carlisle	95

3-1 Major Mouse, 4-1 Roar On Tour, 5-1 Zacaroon, 6-1 Slytly Beveled, 8-1 Brackenthwaite, Ragazzo, Zanzara, 10-1 others.

2.50 ROCKY CLAIMING STAKES
(3-Y-O: £2,537: 1m) (10)

301	(3)	*0-12*	*DURGAMS FIRST 19 (CD,BF,G) Mrs M Reveley 8-13*	K Darley	90
302	(8)	*0-25*	*WARRIOR LADY 16 P McBride 8-10*	*Justine Reader (7)*	75
303	(9)	2-65	KEYS SEMINAR 13 (B) N Callaghan 8-7	J Stack (5)	94
304	(7)		BEYAATEH M Chapman 8-4	C Munday (7)	–
305	(5)		EVAN CAN WAIT J Eyre 8-2	G MacDonald (7)	–
306	(2)	0-00	CENTAUR EXPRESS 10 A Forbes 8-1	Stephen Davies	71
307	(10)		EL TAURUS K Wingrove 8-1	D Biggs	–
308	(4)	3144	POLY LANE 14 (B,CD,F,G,S) W Muir 8-1	S Sanders (3)	[illegible]
309	(1)	600-	KITTY WATERJET 79 B Ellison 7-12	C Teague (7)	–
310	(6)	000-	LUCKY PEG 116 F O'Mahony 7-12	J Quinn	77

9-4 Durgams First, 9-2 Lucky Peg, Poly Lane, 6-1 Keys Seminar, 7-1 Warrior Lady, 8-1 Kitty Waterjet, 10-1 Evan Can Wait, 12-1 others.

3.20 PYRENEES HANDICAP
(£3,640: 1m 3f) (9)

401	(2)	020-	FOX SPARROW 30J (D,S) N Tinkler 6-10-0	Kim Tinkler	94
402	(8)	0-11	ASHOVER 14 (CD,F,G,S) T Barron 5-9-10	Kimberley Hart (7)	97
403	(1)	021	INCHKEITH 12 (B) G Wragg 3-9-4	D Gibbs (7)	80
404	(5)	1152	PALACEGATE JO 14 (CD,BF,G,S) R Hollinshead 4-9-3	T Ives	96
405	(9)	26-1	RED INDIAN 10 (C,F,G) W Haigh 9-8-13	Dean McKeown	93
406	(7)	*8-15*	*BARTI-DDU 28 (CD,G) S Williams 4-8-12*	K Darley	91
407	(3)	6491	SUIVEZ 7 (CD,F,G) Mrs N Macauley 5-8-9 (5ex)	S D Williams	[illegible]
408	(6)	1-00	ANORAK 35 (G) G Moore 5-8-5	T Williams	90
409	(4)	0-56	EXCLUSION 32 (S) J Hetherton 6-7-11	N Kennedy	92

3-1 Ashover, 9-2 Fox Sparrow, Inchkeith, 5-1 Palacegate Jo, Suivez, 7-1 Red Indian, 8-1 Exclusion, 10-1 others.

3.50 SIERRA MADRE MEDIAN AUCTION MAIDEN STAKES (£3,024: 1m 4f) (11)

501	(8)	0	A NEW FLAME 11 (V) R Guest 4-8-12	G Bardwell	–
502	(5)		DANSON T Caldwell 4-8-12	G Duffield	–
503	(4)	5-60	DRAGONFLIGHT 14 D Haydn Jones 4-8-12	A Mackay	73
504	(9)	535-	LORD WELLINGTON 129J J Jenkins 4-8-12	C Rutter	64
505	(2)	5033	MANOLETE 7 (B) C W C Elsey 4-8-12	N Kennedy	83
506	(7)	50	MOUNTAIN BOY 11 M Johnston 4-8-12	T Williams	65
507	(10)	3	HANDMAIDEN 49 J Eyre 5-8-10	T Ives	88
508	(11)		*MADAM CHAIRMAN 68J N Littmoden 6-8-10*	*N Carlisle*	–
509	(6)	200-	ALWAYS GREENER 40J Mrs N Macauley 4-8-7	S Drowne (5)	–
510	(1)	2362	REGAL PURSUIT 11 (H,BF) C Horgan 4-8-7	A Clark	92
511	(3)	-024	SHAMWARI 35 (BF) J Mills 4-8-7	M Henry (7)	[illegible]

9-4 Handmaiden, 3-1 Shamwari, 7-2 Regal Pursuit, 9-2 Always Greener, 6-1 Manolete, Regal Pursuit, 10-1 Danson, 12-1 others.

4.20 APENNINES SELLING HANDICAP
(Div II: £2,259: 6f) (9)

601	(1)	*35-1*	*PANTHER 31 (D,G) J Hetherton 5-9-11*	*N Kennedy*	[illegible]
602	(5)	4124	CHADWELL HALL 10 (B,D,BF,G) S Bowring 4-9-7	C Teague (7)	94
603	(2)	0-00	HENRY THE HAWK 9 M Dods 4-9-4	J Stack (5)	97
604	(7)	0080	HINARI VIDEO 11 (C,D,G,S) M Johnston 10-9-3	Oliver Casey (7)	96
605	(6)	0-50	FARMER JOCK 31 (D,F,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 13-8-12	A Clark	91
606	(8)	0-03	RUSTIC LEAGUE 26 T Naughton 4-8-9	D Harrison	90
607	(4)	450-	DOMYBLY 201 (F) M H Easterby 3-8-6	G Duffield	95
608	(9)	0406	BRITANNIA MILLS 14 (F) M Chapman 4-8-5	C Munday (7)	98
609	(3)	-046	*HAVANA MISS 7 (B,D,S) B Palling 3-7-10*	Stephen Davies	93

5-2 Chadwell Hall, 7-2 Panther, 9-2 Rustic League, 5-1 Domybly, Hinari Video, 7-1 Henry The Hawk, 10-1 *Havana Miss*, 12-1 others.

4.50 CAUCASUS HANDICAP
(£2,537: 7f) (16)

1	(1)	0213	QUINZII MARTIN 9 (CD,G) D Haydn Jones 7-10-0	T Williams	94
2	(15)	-060	TYRONE FLYER 7 (CD,G,S) P McEntee 6-9-10	D Wright (3)	85
3	(13)	1603	*LETSBEONESTABOUTIT 7 (V,D,G,S) Mrs N Macauley 9-9-6*	Dean McKeown	93
4	(7)	*06-0*	*ON Y VA 54 (CD,G,S) R Williams 8-9-6*	Sarah Thompson (7)	[illegible]
5	(8)	-042	CICERONE 21 (C,D,G,S) J L Harris 5-9-4	G Duffield	96
6	(10)	2241	AT THE SAVOY 3 (C,BF,G) T Barron 4-9-3	Kimberley Hart (7)	92
7	(12)	00-4	CRONK'S COURAGE 8 (V,C,F,G,S) M Meagher 9-8-13	J Stack (5)	91
8	(4)	60-0	DAUNTLESS FORT 31 (C,G) B *Murray 4-8-12*	C Scudder (7)	90
9	(11)	*0123*	*AQUADO 7 (CD,BF,F,G) A Forbes 6-8-11*	J Quinn	85
10	(3)	008-	PENNY'S WISHING 97 J Leigh 3-8-11	A Culhane	92
11	(2)	-033	CHRISTIAN FLIGHT 3 S Gollings 6-8-10	D Harrison	89
12	(16)	00-5	RAINBOWS RHAPSODY 26 M Camacho 4-8-10	L Charnock	87
13	(14)	00-6	BLASTER BATES 3 (B) R Brotherton 4-8-9	A Mackay	92
14	(6)	-054	CHALDON HERRING 10 (D,G) T Barron 3-8-8	K Darley	91
15	(9)	0046	GENESIS FOUR 14 (B,C,G,S) S Bowring 6-8-7	C Teague (7)	93
16	(5)	000-	FOIST 194 M W Easterby 3-8-4	Ruth Coulter (7)	–

6-1 Aquado, 7-1 Christian Flight, Cicerone, On Y Va, 8-1 Quinzii Martin, At The Savoy, 10-1 Cronk's Courage, 12-1 Letsbeonestaboutit, 14-1 others.

COURSE SPECIALISTS

SOUTHWELL: Trainers: Mrs M Reveley, 18 winners from 61 runners, 29.5%; *Lord Huntingdon, 24 from 105, 22.9%; M Johnston, 28 from* 145, 19.3%; G Wragg, 4 from 23, 17.4%; W Haigh, 17 from 100, *17.0%; T Barron, 42 from 262, 16.0%; M Camacho, 9 from 60, 15.0%;* G Moore, 4 from 27, 14.8%; J Hetherton, 10 from 70, 14.3%; N Callaghan, 7 from 49, 14.3%. Jockeys: Kimberley Hart, 4 winners from 12 rides, 33.3%; D Gibbs, 3 from 11, 27.3%; K Darley, 18 from 93, 19.4%; D Biggs, 33 from 192, 17.2%; G Duffield, 30 from 206, 14.6%; D Harrison, 19 from 132, 14.4%; M Fenton, 10 from 76, 13.2%; Dean McKeown, 32 from 260, 12.3%.

NEWCASTLE: Trainers: P Cheesbrough, 9 winners from 37 runners, 24.3%; Mrs M Reveley, 20 from 86, 23.3%; G Moore 13 61 21.3%; Jimmy Fitzgerald 8 43 18.6%; J Jefferson 3 17 17.6%; M H Easterby 11 63 17.5%; W Reed, 7 from 40, 17.5. Jockeys: N Williamson, 4 winners from 14 rides, 28.6%; D Byrne, 9 from 34, 26.5%; P Niven, 26 from 127, 20.5%; T Reed, 19 from 102, 18.6%; L Wyer, 15 from 83, 18.1%; A Thornton, 3 from 18, 16.7%; Richard Guest, 3 from 19, 15.8%; N Doughty, 7 from 48, 14.6%.

Blinkered first time

NEWCASTLE: 3.10 Malawi. 3.40 Armagret. SOUTHWELL: 2.20 Zacaroon. 3.50 A New Flame. 4.20 Havana Miss.

Royal Jester lines up Cheltenham objective

Point-to-point
by Brian Beel

ROYAL JESTER, ridden by Clive Storey, landed the odds in the Land Rover qualifier at the **Berwickshire** on Saturday but not before a struggle with Jimmy River, who led to the last fence. Previous runs suggest he goes better over the stiffer National Hunt fences and the Cheltenham Foxhunters remains his objective.

More impressive was Andrew Parker's 20-length win in the confined on Royal Stream, who has now won five of his six races in the last two seasons. In the ladies', the remarkable record of Steele Justice ended when, for the first time in three years and 12 ladies' open races, he was beaten into third by Sporting Mariner and Rushing Burn.

Panda Shandy, a half-brother to Hops And Pops, won division one of the maiden at the **Hursley Hambledon**. Owned and bred by Sue Woodhouse and trained by her daughter, Jackie Abbot, she recovered from a blunder four out to beat Pabrey by two lengths under Rupert Nuttall.

Polly Curling, who lost four teeth when she was kicked after slipping up in a National Hunt *flat* race at Wincanton on Thursday, missed only one winning ride, Good For Business. With *Tim Mitchell* deputising, he narrowly beat Baroness Spider in the second *division of the* restricted. Curling expects to resume at Clyst St Mary on Saturday.

In the absence of Colonial Kelly with a bruised foot, Magical Morris, with Paul Hacking aboard, made light of winning the open at the **Mid Surrey Farmers**. Hacking also won the restricted on Nethertara and the intermediate on Yeoman Farmer.

Results, page 32

THE TIMES

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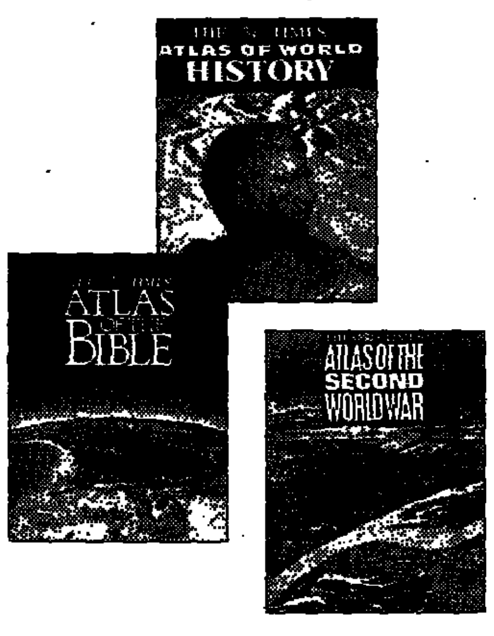

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Law Report February 27 1995 Privy Council

Compensation for losses in anticipation of seizure of land

Director of Buildings and Lands v Shun Fung Ironworks Ltd

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Lloyd of Berwick and Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead

[Judgment February 20]

A claimant whose land in Hong Kong was resumed by the Crown was entitled to compensation for losses occurring before resumption provided they arose in anticipation of resumption and because of the threat thereof and they were not too remote or losses which a reasonable person would have avoided.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council so held in allowing an appeal by the Director of Buildings and Lands, and by a majority (Lord Mustill and Lord Slynn dissenting) allowing in part the cross-appeal by Shun Fung Ironworks Ltd, from the judgment of the Court of Appeal of Hong Kong whereby an award of compensation to Shun Fung of HK$131 million by the Lands Tribunal in respect of the resumption of Shun Fung's land by the Crown was set aside and an award of $519 million was substituted.

Section 10 of the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance provides: "(1) The tribunal shall determine the amount of compensation (if any) payable in respect of a claim ... on the basis of the loss or damage suffered by the claimant due to the resumption of the land specified in the claim.

"(2) The tribunal shall determine the compensation (if any) payable under subsection (1) on the basis of ... (d) the amount of loss or damage to a business conducted by the claimant at the date of resumption on the land resumed ... due to the removal of the business from that land ... as a result of the resumption."

Mr Michael Barnes, QC and Mr Robert Bailey-King for the director; Mr Lionel Read, QC and Mr Simon Pickles for Shun Fung.

LORD NICHOLLS, delivering the majority judgment, said that Shun Fung carried on a business at Junk Bay in Hong Kong. In November 1981, Shun Fung received notification that the government intended to develop Junk Bay as a new town and the company would have to give up its site. The formal steps were taken after a protracted period.

On October 15, 1985, the Governor made an order under the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance that the site was required for a public purpose, and July 30, 1986, was fixed as the date of resumption. Shun Fung was unable to obtain another suitable site before that date, and so it had to close down its business. It finally quit Junk Bay in January 1987.

The principal dispute concerned the basis on which compensation should be paid for the loss sustained by Shun Fung in respect of its business. Shun Fung's primary claim was that its business loss was not to be measured simply by valuing the business as at the date of resumption in 1986, the so-called "extinguishment" basis for assessing compensation, and the proper measure was the costs it would incur in moving to a site at Shunde in China, which it had found in 1987, and resuming its interrupted business there, the so-called "relocation" basis.

The Lands Tribunal held that the extinguishment basis was the correct basis, whereas the Court of Appeal held that compensation ought to be assessed on the relocation basis and increased the award from $131 million to $519 million.

Section 10 of the Crown Lands Resumption Ordinance regulated the payment of compensation on the resumption of land. The legislative code in England relating to compensation for compulsory acquisition contained no express provision corresponding to section 10(2)(d), but in all respects relevant in the present case the principles applicable under the two codes were the same. The purpose of the provisions, in Hong Kong and England, was to provide fair compensation for a claimant whose land had been compulsorily taken from him.

Land might have a special value to a claimant over and above the price it would fetch if sold in the open market. Fair compensation required that he should be paid for the value of the land to him, not its value generally or its value to the acquiring authority.

If he was using the land to carry on a business, the value of the land to him would include the value of his being able to conduct his business there without disturbance. Compensation should cover that disturbance loss as well as the market value of the land itself.

The expenses and losses he incurred in moving his business to a new site would ordinarily be the measure of the special loss he sustained. If the business could not be moved elsewhere, so it had to close down, prima facie his loss would be measured by the value of the business as a going concern.

The application of the general principle of fair and adequate compensation bristled with problems. As useful guidelines there were three conditions to be satisfied to qualify for compensation:

1 There must be a causal connection between the resumption or acquisition and the loss in question.

2 The loss must not be too remote.

3 The claimant must have behaved reasonably. Losses or expenditure incurred unreasonably could not be said to be caused by, or be the consequence of, or be due to the resumption.

Their Lordships were unable to accept the Crown's submission that a claimant could never be entitled to compensation on a relocation basis if that would exceed the amount of compensation payable on an extinguishment basis.

Ordinarily the expenses and losses incurred when a business was moved to a new site would be less than the value of the entire business as a going concern. Compensation payable on a relocation basis would normally be less than compensation payable on an extinguishment basis. But that would not always be so, and a rigid limitation as contended by the Crown could lead to injustice.

The conclusion to be drawn, in a case where the cost of moving the business to another site would exceed the present value of the business, was that that was not of itself an absolute bar to the assessment of compensation on the relocation basis. It all depended on how a reasonable businessman, using his own money, would behave in the circumstances.

The tribunal or court would need to scrutinise the relocation claim with care, to see whether a reasonable businessman having adequate funds of his own might incur the expenditure. Compensation was not intended to provide a means whereby a dispossessed owner could finance a business venture which, were he using his own money, he would not countenance. When considering those matters the tribunal or court might allow itself a moderate degree of latitude in approving as reasonable the relocation of a family business.

The same result could be arrived at by reasoning expressed in other language which accorded more directly with the basic principle that compensation was payable for the value to the claimant of the land in question.

When determining that value the tribunal was in effect assessing how much a prudent person in the position of the claimant would himself have been prepared to give for the land sooner than lose it. In some circumstances the extra value of the land to a prudent businessman might exceed the present value of the business and that extra value was part of the value of the land to the claimant.

Shun Fung's relocation claim

Three principal questions arose on relocation claims:

1 Could the business be relocated, or had it effectually been extinguished? If the business was not capable of being relocated compensation would have to be assessed on the extinguishment basis.

2 Did the claimant intend to relocate? The claimant had to have reached a firm decision to relocate his business and be reasonably assured that he would be able to do so.

3 Would a reasonable businessman relocate the business?

The Lands Tribunal was impressed by the many years discontinuity between the business at Junk Bay and the business planned for Shunde and concluded that the latter would not be the same business as the one carried on at Junk Bay.

In 1986 the land resumption forced Shun Fung to close its business and liquidate most of its operating assets. Its business was effectually extinguished at that time.

The Court of Appeal took a different view. The issue was essentially one of fact and degree and their Lordships could see no ground entitling the Court of Appeal to depart from the conclusions reached by the tribunal on the basis of its primary findings of fact.

Shun Fung's claim for compensation to cover the cost of moving to Shunde and re-establishing its business there failed.

Loss of profits in the shadow period

Shun Fung first became aware that its business was under threat when it received a letter from the government in November 1981. The tribunal found that the removal of the business from the land was in the nature of a slow asphyxiation for Shun Fung.

Customers became unwilling to enter into long term forward contracts. Shun Fung reasonably and properly decided in June 1982 not to enter into contracts of more than six months duration. From November 1981 to January 1987, while operating as best it could under the threat of resumption, the company suffered financially to the extent of $18.173 million.

The question was whether a loss occurring before resumption could be regarded, for compensation purposes, as a loss caused by the resumption. At first sight the question seemed to admit of only one answer. Cause had to precede effect. A loss which preceded resumption could not be caused by it. Hence a pre-resumption loss could not be the subject of compensation.

That approach led to practical results from which one instinctively recoiled. It would mean that the businessman who moved out the week before resumption could not recover his removal expenses. It would also run counter to the reasoning underlying the principle in *Pointe Gourde Quarrying and Transport Co Ltd v Sub-Intendent of Crown Lands* ([1947] AC 565).

In *Aberdeen City District Council v Sim* ((1982) 264 EG 621) the Inner House of the Court of Session in Scotland held that legal expenses incurred before the date of the deemed notice to treat were compensatable. In *Prasad v Wolverhampton Borough Council* ([1983] Ch 333) the Court of Appeal in England reached a similar conclusion regarding removal expenses.

The Crown submitted those decisions were wrong.

Shun Fung's claim to compensation under this head succeeded before the Lands Tribunal, which construed "removal" in section 10(2)(d) as including threat of removal.

It also held that resumption was a process, starting in the present case with the onset of the scheme for the new town at Junk Bay.

The Court of Appeal disagreed on the "threat" point, but adopted a similar approach on the "process" point save that it held that the process of resumption did not begin until the order was made in October 1985, and it awarded only $6.875 million.

Their Lordships were unable to accept the latter approach. Resumption in section 10(1) was a reference to the reverter of the land to the Crown. That was an event, not a process. That event occurred on July 30, 1986.

Far from furthering the legislative purpose of providing fair compensation the Crown's contention would have the opposite effect. Coming events might cast their shadows before them and resumption was such an event.

On the Crown's argument a person who sensibly and reasonably moved out a few days before resumption would be unable to recover his removal expenses. That would rightly bring the law into disrepute. So the search was for a coherent principle which would, in the first place, provide compensation for the removal expenses of a landowner who reasonably moved out before resumption.

If the Crown's contention was rejected, as it had to be, there was no sensible stopping place short of recognising that losses incurred in anticipation of resumption and because of the threat which resumption presented were to be regarded as losses caused by the resumption as much as losses arising after resumption.

That involved giving the concept of causal connection an extended meaning, wide enough to embrace all such losses. To qualify for compensation a loss suffered post-resumption had satisfy the three conditions of being causally connected, not too remote, and not a loss which a reasonable person would have avoided.

A loss sustained post-scheme and pre-resumption would not fail for lack of causal connection by reason only that the loss arose before resumption, provided it arose in anticipation of resumption and because of the threat which resumption presented.

That result was fair and sensible. Had there been no scheme, the losses in question would not have arisen. The result was coherent because it accorded with the established *Pointe Gourde* principle.

It also meant that compensation was not dependent on whether the acquiring authority acted speedily or tardily in carrying through the process culminating in resumption.

At the outset of a shadow period, there might be no certainty that resumption would take place. As time passed, and the scheme proceeded, the likelihood of resumption increased, until a resumption order was made. At that stage, but not before, there was a legal commitment.

There was no sound reason for attempting to draw a spurious line somewhere along that penumbra of gradually darkening shadow. The less certain the prospect of resumption, the greater would be the burden of showing that the landowner acted reasonably in running down his business and that the losses were caused by the prospect of resumption.

Accordingly, all Shun Fung's pre-resumption losses, totalling $18.173 million, ranked for compensation. Both *Sim*'s case and *Prasad*'s case were correctly decided.

Lord Justice Stephenson's observation in the latter case (at p357), that loss of medical practice by Dr Prasad and his wife due to the threat of impending compulsory purchase was not compensatable, would need reconsideration if it was to be read as an observation of general application.

After considering other issues their Lordships recommended that the appeal should be allowed, the cross-appeal allowed in respect of the claim for loss of profits in the shadow period, and the order of the Lands Tribunal restored.

Lord Mustill and Lord Slynn delivered a dissenting judgment on the cross-appeal.

Solicitors: Lovell White Durrant; McKenna & Co.

Sanctions orders are valid

Regina v Searle
Regina v K. C. S. Products Ltd
Regina v Borjanovic
Regina v BYE Ltd

Before Lord Taylor of Gosforth, Lord Chief Justice, Mr Justice McKinnon and Mr Justice Judge

[Judgment February 24]

EEC regulations and a United Kingdom order restricting exports from and imports to Serbia and Montenegro were valid and, the regulations being valid, effective statutory machinery existed for enforcing by penalties the sanctions they imposed.

The Court of Appeal, Criminal Division, so held when dismissing four appeals against conviction of contravening prohibitions imposed by the Serbia and Montenegro (United Nations Sanctions) Order (SI 1992 No 1302) and EEC Council Regulations 1992 No 1432 and 1993 No 990.

Terence Searle, aged 56, and K. C. S. Products Ltd were convicted on pleas of guilty, following rejection of a motion to have the indictment quashed, at Southwark Crown Court by Judge Gee, on a count charging being knowingly concerned in the exportation of goods with intent to evade the prohibition on such exportation imposed by the regulations and the order and a count similarly prohibiting importation.

The case against them concerned a journey in August 1992, when a lorry carried out trichloroethane and returned with basic chrome sulphate.

Searle was sentenced to 12 months imprisonment on each count concurrently and was ordered to pay £15,000 towards prosecution costs; K. C. S. Products were fined £5,000 on each count and ordered to pay £15,000 costs.

Borislav Borjanovic, aged 55, was convicted at Southwark Crown Court before Judge Butler, QC, on a plea of guilty to being knowingly concerned in the attempted exportation of goods with intent to evade the prohibition and to eight counts of contravening the prohibition.

The case against him was that unlawful trade was deliberately and deceptively carried on relating to a variety of goods, mainly chemicals used in the manufacture of fertilisers and plastics. He was sentenced to 18 months imprisonment on each count concurrent.

A company, BYE Ltd, of which Borjanovic was a director similarly pleaded guilty and were fined £6,000 on each count.

Mr Geoffrey Cox, assigned by the Registrar of Criminal Appeals, for Searle; Mr Geoffrey Cox for K. C. S. Products; Mr David Cocks, QC, assigned by the Registrar of Civil Appeals, for Borjanovic; Mr David Cocks, QC, for BYE Ltd; Mr Gerald Barling, QC and Mr Stephen Kramer for the Crown.

THE LORD CHIEF JUSTICE, giving the judgment of the court, said that the issues to be determined on the appeal were: whether the regulations were valid; if so, whether the 1992 Order was also valid; and whether, if the regulations were valid, there was in place effective statutory machinery for enforcing the sanctions they imposed by penalties.

The regulations were made under article 113 of the EEC Treaty and the court could not hold the regulations to be invalid without first seeking a preliminary ruling from the European Court of Justice, although their Lordships' court was fully entitled to consider the issue of validity and to hold the regulations valid without making such a reference: see Case 101/78 *Granaria BV* ([1979] ECR 623, 636) and Case 314/85 *Foto-Frost* ([1987] ECR 4199).

The regulations so far as material to the appeal restricted exports from and imports to Serbia and Montenegro.

His Lordship considered the submissions and said that their Lordships rejected the challenge to the validity of the regulations. Since they reached their conclusion with confidence, they considered it unnecessary to refer the issue raised to the European Court under article 177 of the EEC Treaty.

Given that the regulations were valid the next consideration was Mr Cox's argument that the 1992 Order was invalid.

The Crown had relied on article 234 of the EEC Treaty and in their Lordships' judgment the Crown's reliance on article 234 was well founded. The United Kingdom had a duty to act directly to implement the United Nations resolution.

What was necessary to be done was a matter for the national authorities to decide. There was no question of the order being incompatible with the regulations or seeking to disapply them. Article 234 operated to prevent the Community from impeding the United Kingdom's performance of its obligations under the UN Charter.

It was submitted that, unless the court was confident that the challenge to the validity of the order failed, that issue should be referred to the European Court of Justice. Their Lordships were confident that it failed and that no reference was necessary.

As to the third issue, whether there was in place effective statutory machinery for enforcing the sanctions they imposed by penalties, section 2(1) of the European Communities Act 1972 permitted liabilities and restrictions arising under the European Community treaties to come into force within the United Kingdom without further enactment.

In the United Kingdom it was and since 1979 had been an offence to act in a way prohibited by the Customs and Excise (Management) Act 1979, itself a consolidating Act, re-enacting similar long standing prohibitions. The enforcement of the regulations required no further domestic legislation; the sanctions available under the 1979 Act immediately applied. Accordingly, the regulations could properly form the basis for a criminal conviction within the United Kingdom under the 1979 Act.

In *R v Ayres* ([1984] AC 447, 462) Lord Bridge of Harwich had stated that the misdescription of the offence in the statement of offence itself had not the slightest practical significance.

In their Lordships' judgment, precisely the same conclusion would be appropriate in relation to any wrong choice between the 1992 Order and the EEC regulations in the particulars of offence. As there would have been no miscarriage of justice in either case their Lordships would have applied the proviso to section 23(1) of the Criminal Appeal Act 1968.

Solicitors: Janes; Titmuss Sainer & Webb; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Failure to comply

Caton v Community Service Office

Unacceptable and violent behaviour exhibited towards a community service officer could amount to a failure without reasonable excuse to comply with the requirements of an order to perform community service, under paragraph 3(1) of Schedule 2 to the Criminal Justice Act 1991, even when the relevant number of hours had been performed.

The Queen's Bench Divisional Court (Lord Justice Rose and Mr Justice Tuckey) so held on February 22 in dismissing an appeal by John Eric Caton against a decision of Preston Crown Court (Mr Recorder Ensor and justices).

Correction

In *R v Broadcasting Complaints Commission, Ex parte British Broadcasting Corporation* (*The Times* February 24) the solicitor for the BBC was Mrs Jean Strafford, Shepherd's Bush.

VAT rules apply to actual not deemed supply

Wirral Metropolitan Borough Council v Commissioners of Customs and Excise

Before Mr Justice Potts

[Judgment February 10]

Section 32(4) of the Value Added Tax Act 1983, and regulation 26 of the Value Added Tax (General) Regulations (SI 1985 No 886) were applicable only to actual rather than to mere deemed supplies where goods or services were supplied through an agent who acted in his own name.

Mr Justice Potts so held in the Queen's Bench Division when dismissing the appeal of Wirrall Metropolitan Borough Council against the dismissal by a Manchester VAT tribunal on December 14, 1992 of the council's appeal against a VAT assessment by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise dated May 1991.

The council engaged builders on a contract basis to carry out building works, and thereafter entered into an agreement with Morgan Grenfell (Local Authority Finance) Ltd whereby the latter agreed to pay the builders the sums due under the building contracts, the council agreed to repay Morgan Grenfell the sums so paid, and Morgan Grenfell appointed the council as its agent for the purposes of those building contracts.

Mr Alun E. James for the council; Mr Kenneth Parker, QC, for the commissioners.

MR JUSTICE POTTS said that as the building works progressed the appellant paid the builders the sums due and claimed and received credit for the VAT element of the invoiced sums.

The appellant then claimed and received reimbursement from Morgan Grenfell, but did not declare the VAT element of those invoiced sums in its returns for the periods during which the sums were invoiced to it.

The commissioners were of the view that the council ought to have done so. His Lordship added that the council made no supply of building services to Morgan Grenfell whatsoever, and the supply to that company was a statutory fiction; that that deemed supply had to be treated as having taken place at the time of the supply of building services from the builders to the council.

Regulation 26 of the 1985 Regulations, on the subject of the time of supply, was not intended to apply to the deemed supply of building services from the appellant to Morgan Grenfell arising from the operation of section 32(4) of the 1983 Act.

The provisions of the Act and of the regulations could only be enforced if the tax point for the deemed supplies by the agent to its principal was to be fixed by reference to the time of the actual supplies made by the builders to the agent/appellant.

By virtue of section 32(4) the commissioners could, as they had in this case, treat the supply to the agent as both a supply to the agent and a supply by the agent to his principal. Thus, the receipt of services by the agent gave rise to recoverable input tax, and the deemed supply by him gave rise to an output tax for which he had to account.

Solicitors: Mr P. G. Manson, Wallasey; Solicitor, Customs and Excise.

Scots Law Report February 27 1995 High Court of Justiciary

When a salmon is unclean or unseasonable

Brady v Procurator Fiscal, Stonehaven

Before the Lord Justice-General (Lord Hope), Lord Cowie and Lord Allanbridge

[Judgment January 13]

A salmon was "unclean" in terms of section 20 of the Salmon Fisheries (Scotland) Act 1868 if it had already begun to spawn, or had not recovered from spawning; and was "unseasonable" in terms of section 20 if it had already begun to spawn or was full of spawn and on the point of spawning. However, a fish was not "unseasonable" merely because it was full of spawn, but only if, when the belly was gently pressed towards the vent, spawn or milt were discharged.

The High Court of Justiciary, sitting as the Court of Criminal Appeal, so held, passing a bill of suspension brought by David Brady against his conviction by the Sheriff at Stonehaven under section 20 of the 1868 Act for possessing unseasonable salmon, suspending the proceedings in the sheriff court and quashing the conviction.

Section 20 of the 1868 Act, as amended by Schedule 3 to the Salmon Act 1986, provides: "Every person who shall wilfully take, fish for, or attempt to take, or aid or assist in taking, fishing for, or attempting to take, any unclean or unseasonable salmon, or who shall ... have in his possession, any unclean or unseasonable salmon, shall be liable to a penalty ... *but this section shall not apply to any person who takes such fish accidentally, and forthwith returns the same to the water with the least possible injury*..."

Mr Donald McLeod for the complainer, Mrs Fiona Reith for the Crown.

THE LORD JUSTICE-GENERAL said that the complainer had gone to trial in Stonehaven Sheriff Court on a summary complaint which stated that the charge against him was that on September 30, 1991 at Ardoe Fishings on the River Dee, he did have in his possession unclean or unseasonable salmon, contrary to section 20 of the 1868 Act, as amended.

He had been convicted of the possession of unseasonable salmon. The appeal raised the question of the meaning of the word "unseasonable". The date on which he had been proved to have had the salmon had been the last day of the season for taking salmon in the relevant fishery district.

It was agreed that the word "unseasonable" did not mean "taken out of season". It had to relate to the condition of the fish.

But the statutes did not say what test was to be applied in order to determine whether a fish was or was not "unseasonable" nor did they say what was meant by the expression "unclean".

An obvious explanation for the absence of any definition was that it had been understood that their meaning would be clear to anyone who was engaged in salmon fishing. It could be assumed that they were used in the statutes because they were already words in common use, as descriptions which were applied to salmon which were not in a suitable state to be taken at any time. It was inevitable that there would be some lack of precision in the application of those adjectives, as a fish was a living creature.

The process of its development to the point of spawning, and after spawning was over, was a gradual one. The stages of transition were not sharply defined. They might not even be detectable without killing and dissecting the fish. Nevertheless section 20 was a penal enactment.

The words had to be given a meaning which would enable a fish which had reached that prohibited condition to be readily identified, so that if it was in that condition it could be returned to the river without serious injury. They should not be construed so as to create offences which were clearly not within the meaning of the language used.

Having reviewed the authorities, *Stewart, Treatise on Rights of Fishing in Scotland* (1st edition (1869) p186; 2nd edition (1892) p 207); *Scott Robinson, The Law of Game, Salmon and Freshwater Fishing in Scotland* ((1990) p148); *Millichamp, A Guide to Angling Law* ((1990) para 27.1); *Hay v Mulqueeny* (1893 1 SLT 31) and *Nixon v White* (1958 SLT (Sh Ct) 38), his Lordship stated that the object of section 20 was to provide protection for fish which were breeding and during their state of exhaustion consequent upon it irrespective of the time when they were taken.

The word "unclean" covered the case of the exhausted fish after spawning. A fish, which had already begun to spawn, having reached the stage when the spawn or milt had begun to emerge from the vent, would have either reached or be approaching that state of exhaustion and it might also be considered to be "unclean".

It would at least be an "unseasonable" fish, as it was in the process of spawning and thus plainly entitled to the protection of the Act. But the word "unseasonable", although imprecise, could be taken to extend also, for the purpose of the penal sanction, to the period when the fish, although not yet unclean, had reached the condition of being ready to spawn.

It was not enough that it was full of spawn, as fish which were in spawn but whose tissues had not yet begun to degenerate to permit spawning were in that respect undoubtedly wholesome. In their case, an examination of the fish without the risk of serious injury would not reveal a clear point of time when the taking of fish which were in that condition should be prohibited.

But when the tissues had degenerated to the point when spawning had become possible, although it had not yet begun, perhaps because the fish had not reached the spawning ground, then there was a physical condition which could be indentified by pressing the belly gently towards the vent without killing the fish or subjecting it to serious injury. It was at that period, when it was plainly on the eve of spawning, that it could be taken to be "unseasonable" within the meaning of section 20.

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When cultures clash

Schools must take extra care when they recruit pupils from the East, says **David Dowdles**

Japan and the Far East are proving an ever-more alluring market for boarding school head teachers seeking relief from falling rolls. As boarding numbers have declined by more than 10 per cent in the past two years, schools are increasingly prepared to send ambassadors around the world in search of pupils. But too many heads and governors are neglecting to take basic steps to address the problem of culture clash that inevitably awaits children from the East when they arrive here.

How does a boarding school impress the Japanese and add to the influx of more than 300 pupils who have arrived in 70 schools this year, bringing an estimated £7 million in fees? At Bradfield College alone, five new Japanese pupils will eventually earn the school more than £400,000.

Clearly this is significant income. But it is not enough to reel out every well-worn cliché about our culture and its "unrivalled public schools" in the hope that this alone will attract next year's contingent. Cucumber sandwiches are to sushi as chalk is to cheese. Too few schools, I fear, make allowances for the differences. While the youth of Japan is growing up with jeans, Walkmans and the ubiquitous Macadanarudo — McDonald's to you and me — we delude ourselves if we do not take stock of the cultural gap manifest in the unique way the Japanese think and communicate. Appreciating that is the key to successful and sustained recruiting.

Stereotypes of the average Japanese child — born of unenlightened over-exposure to the global image of Japan as a technological "whizz-kid" — are dangerous. Hopes that new pupils will be the epitome of the revered Japanese work ethic — talented, sharp, linguistically adept individuals who will grace our classrooms, raise our academic profiles and perhaps even our position in school league tables — will most likely prove false. The arrival of Japanese pupils may enhance schools' bank balances in the short term, but it will only work in the long term if heads and governors avoid the pitfalls of relying too quickly and too heavily on fees from abroad.

Rapid short-term expansion is at best misguided and ill-advised, at worst deliberately self-deluding. It is a bitter pill for any head teacher to discover, initially at least, that a new pupil body with a large number of Japanese is likely to be less linguistically adept, less motivated and less academically capable than average.

Schools which cope best with an influx of foreign pupils do not expect too much too soon. They take account of the culture in Japanese schools, where pupils learn to their cost that "the nail that stands up will be pounded down". Inhibition, both linguistic and emotional, and unquestioning acceptance remain the hallmarks of the Japanese character and are potentially frustrating to Western school regimes seeking to provoke individual reasoning.

Can nothing, then, be guaranteed? Only a smile. A Japanese child smiles by habit. Yet the initiated will know how disconcerting that can be and are no longer surprised and bewildered when faced by a perpetually smiling Japanese student who nods and agrees to everything. The smile often persists even when you suspect a pupil might have understood what you have said or taught but you cannot elicit any response to confirm it. The smile sometimes does not even waver when the pupil goes off and does the reverse of what you thought you had told him to do. Suddenly the Japanese are not, as if they ever were, all you promised yourself they would be. Some readjustment is required.

> Stereotypes of the average Japanese child are dangerous

Bridges need to be built from both the school's and the pupil's side. The occasional extra English as a foreign language class, hitherto the saviour in times of cross-cultural crisis, is not a strong enough foundation. The Japanese, at least, are far more demanding, far more discerning. They can afford to be. A British education is as exclusive to them as their Gucci shoes. They select schools with care and do not expect there to be too many other Japanese around. Nor do they expect to pay higher fees than a German or a Hong Kong Chinese. Why should they?

More often than not, the standard half-day school visit with tour and interview is insufficient for the Japanese family. A full day's programme is called for. After all, when buying a car, even a Japanese one, we should not assume quality, but take a test-drive. Yet do we expect on that first occasion behind an unfamiliar wheel to be questioned, in Japanese, on the mechanics under the bonnet? Of course not. So why, then, are so many unnecessarily stringent demands made on potential students on their first visit to a school? Entry tests and selectivity are fine, but let's be realistic.

Without doubt, some salutary lessons are still to be learnt by independent schools looking East. Everything we do, everything we say — all the better if some of it is in Japanese — is a critical part of that lasting first impression. Every attempt at an understanding of Japanese culture and sign of willingness to go some way towards accommodating it is an investment.

There is no such thing as quick yen. In the long-term, patience, flexibility and quality of service, even something as simple as laying on afternoon tea, will be rewarded. Perhaps there is, after all, still a place for cucumber sandwiches.

- *The author is a director of Bradfield College.*

Culture of conformity: Japanese children do not always adapt easily to Western schools

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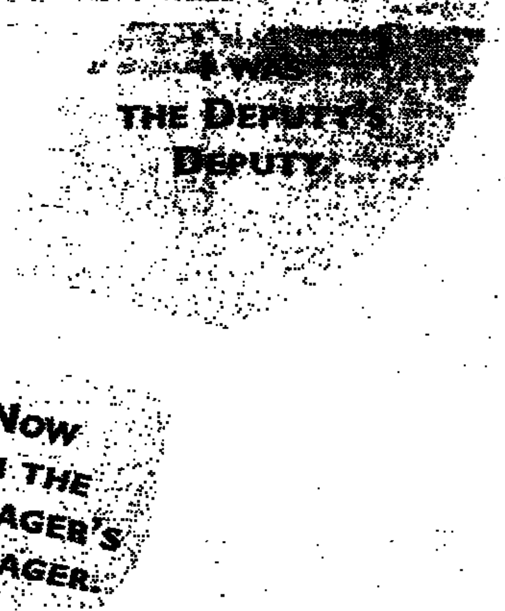

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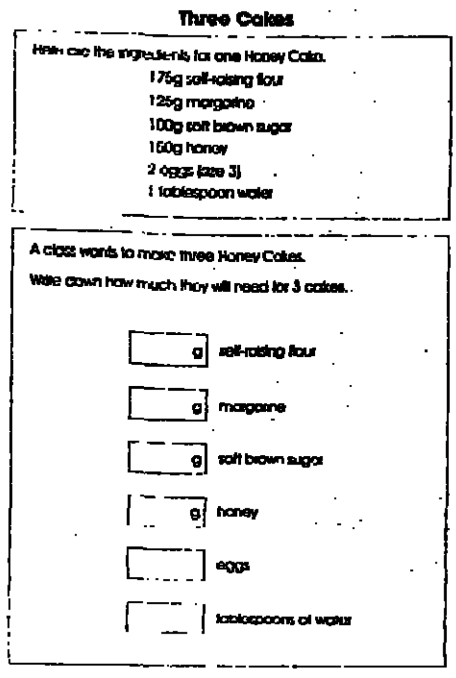
EDUCATION

SEVEN-YEAR-OLDS

Children must perform a series of set tasks in reading, writing and mathematics in small groups some time between their return from half-term and four weeks before the end of the summer term. They will also sit a spelling test (words such as "afternoon" or "caught") and a 40-minute arithmetic test in May. Science will be assessed solely by teachers. Overall, most children are unlikely to have to spend more than two and a half hours on the tests.

The examples (right) are drawn from test papers designed for pupils of typical ability for their ages. The sample questions are from mathematics papers for 7 and 14-year-olds and the science papers for 11-year-olds.



Three Cakes

Here are the ingredients for one Honey Cake.

175g self-raising flour
125g margarine
100g soft brown sugar
150g honey
2 eggs (size 3)
1 tablespoon water

A class wants to make three Honey Cakes.

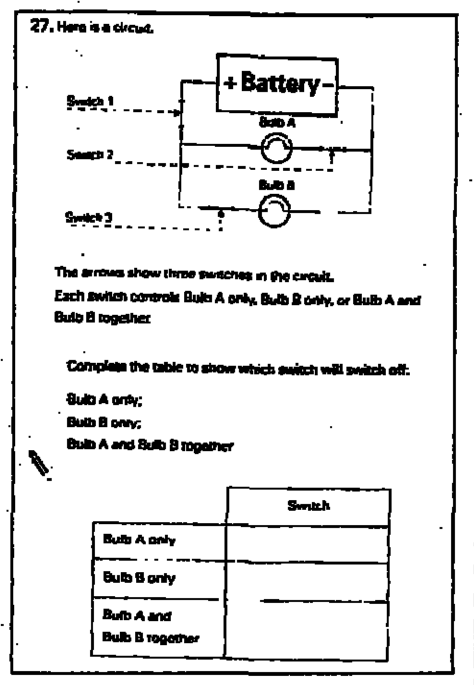
Write down how much they will need for 3 cakes.

☐ g self-raising flour
☐ g margarine
☐ g soft brown sugar
☐ g honey
☐ eggs
☐ tablespoons of water

ELEVEN-YEAR-OLDS

THE first compulsory tests for this age group will last about four hours between May 15 and 18. English includes a 15-minute spelling and handwriting test (words such as "*concentrating*" or "illuminated"), 45 minutes to write an imaginative story and 45 minutes testing pupils' understanding of a passage and poems by answering a series of questions.

There are two 35-minute mathematics papers, each a mixture of arithmetic, basic geometry and algebra, probability and the interpretation of graphs. Two science papers lasting 35 minutes each will require pupils to recall factual knowledge of subjects such as the weather, electricity, the solar system, parts of plants and the body.



27. Here is a circuit.

The arrows show three switches in the circuit.

Each switch controls Bulb A only, Bulb B only, or Bulb A and Bulb B together.

Complete the table to show which switch will switch off:

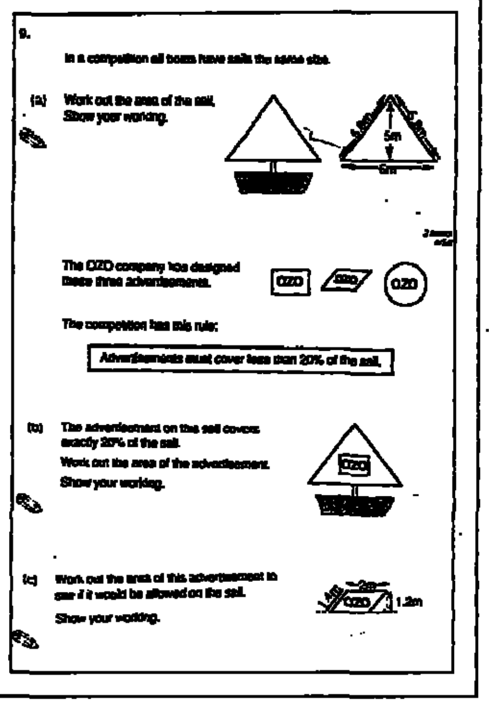
Bulb A only;
Bulb B only;
Bulb A and Bulb B together

	Switch
Bulb A only	
Bulb B only	
Bulb A and Bulb B together	

FOURTEEN-YEAR-OLDS

PUPILS will sit at least six tests totalling almost seven hours between May 5 and 12. Most pupils will take two English tests. The first on May 5, lasting 90 minutes, will use unseen passages to test their reading comprehension, handwriting and spelling. A second test, lasting 75 minutes, to be taken the same day, will be based on specified scenes from one of three Shakespeare plays: *Julius Caesar*; *A Midsummer Night's Dream* or *Romeo and Juliet*. Pupils will be allowed to refer to the original text during the test. The questions are designed to test their understanding and appreciation of the whole play.

There are two hour-long papers for both mathematics and science, which are expected to be closer in style to GCSE papers.



9\.

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(a) Work out the area of the sail.
Show your working.

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(b) The advertisement on this sail covers exactly 20% of the sail.
Work out the area of the advertisement.
Show your working.

(c) Work out the area of this advertisement to see if it would be allowed on the sail.
Show your working.

A parent's guide to the test season

New coaching manuals are springing up to help children through the government tests which begin this week. **Ben Preston** reports

The school tests season begins for real today, seven years after the Government first decided that the way to educational salvation lay with a trinity of compulsory mini-examinations, league tables and a national curriculum. Before the summer is out, nearly two million children aged seven, 11 and 14 are scheduled to sit formal tests in English, mathematics and science.

The decision by the National Union of Teachers last month to abandon its tests boycott means that after endless bruising, often bewildering battles between ministers and the profession, the threat of wholesale industrial action has suddenly lifted. But predictions that testing will proceed without disruption may yet prove wishful thinking. The Treasury's refusal fully to fund the teacher's 2.7 per cent pay increase is the largest storm cloud gathering over schools. It could yet trigger local action against tests in protest at threatened teacher redundancies.

Peter Smith, general secretary of the Association of Teachers and Lecturers, the main moderate union, maintains that Gillian Shephard, the Education Secretary, is tempting fate to declare that testing is firmly on track. He argues: "The mood of the profession is exceedingly volatile. There may well be teachers who say that if the decision over teachers' pay means 'I am at a real risk of losing my job', then this will be reflected in their enthusiasm for conducting tests."

The advent of compulsory national testing is, however, already having an impact at homes as well as in schools. Fresh research by Oxford Brookes University underlines how tests have become part of the education landscape and that the political campaign for the hearts and minds of parents has been won. Four out of five parents now want tests at the end of primary school. Tests for seven-year-olds are much more popular among parents than when they were mooted in 1987.

Yet parents remain less than convinced of the benefits of using the results as bricks to build school league tables. Some 40 per cent said they did not read their local tables and only one quarter said these had influenced their choice of secondary school. Only 2 per cent of parents said they seriously considered switching secondary schools because of league table results.

But this is likely to change as the tests put down stronger roots with the public. Letts Educational, the publishers, last week launched three coaching manuals — in English, mathematics and science (each priced £3.95) — to help parents to prepare their 11-year-olds for the Government's tests. The workbooks are designed to let children practise with the style of questions they will face, teaching them how to concentrate while making the ritual of testing more familar.

Although the workbooks aim to lessen the problem of pupils' pre-test nerves, they clearly play on parental anxieties about the purpose of testing. Ministers argue that test results, like a doctor's thermometer, give parents and teachers important information about each pupil's educational health. But the workbooks suggest that the results count for more: the implication is that they might yet have a role in secondary school selection procedures. More likely, the tests could be used as a basis for streaming.

The question of how parents might help to prepare their children for testing remains vexed. Answers vary according to the age-group concerned. Officials at the School Curriculum and Assessment Authority argue that for 11-year-olds a balance must be struck between parents supporting and helping their children, and creating undue pressure and anxiety. One explained: "Parental interest in education is always valuable. These tests in English, mathematics and science assess how thorough each child's grounding is across the whole range of a subject. Parents can, of course, make a key contribution by helping children with their homework or in other ways."

The official added, however, that the style of questions means that narrow coaching aimed specifically at improving test performance — as was common for the old 11-plus — is unlikely to be fruitful.

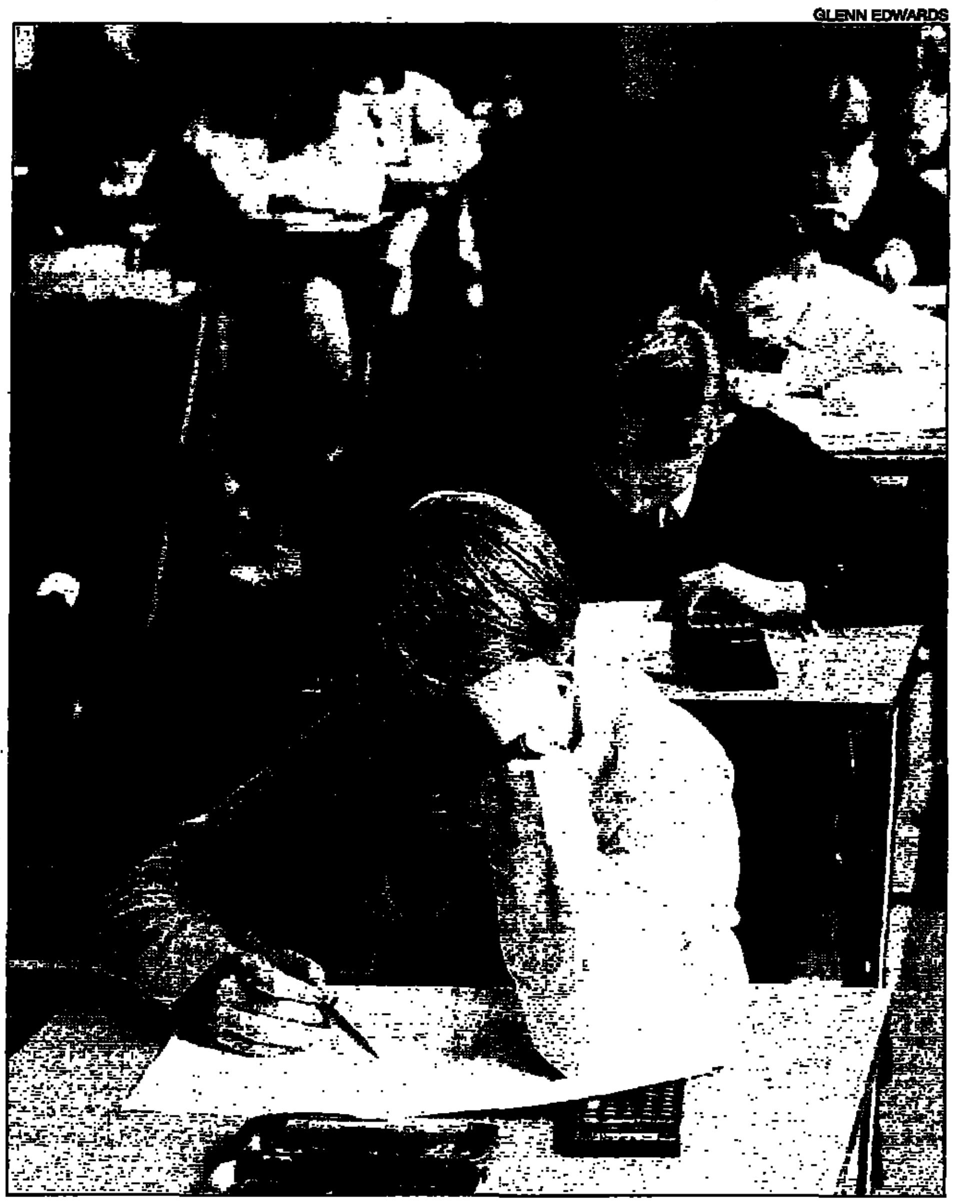
The authority has advised teachers to lay the groundwork for 11-year-olds, noting that some will find taking tests under controlled conditions a new experience. Teachers have been told to arrange some dry runs so that pupils can learn to pace their work against the clock, follow instructions to the letter and be prepared for the possibility that they cannot answer some questions. In addition, the authority says teachers should warn pupils that the science tests will require them to recall some factual knowledge.

Such advice comes in the wake of disappointing results from about 130,000 14-year-olds whose schools defied last summer's test boycott. They showed that one in three pupils failed to reach the expected standards in core subjects, with weaknesses particularly acute in English. Teachers have suggested that pupils panicked under the pressure of their first venture in the intimidating quiet of the examination hall. The generation of pupils entering primaries today is unlikely to suffer the same fate — it will be thoroughly schooled in the culture of testing.

MARKS AND GRADES

EVERY state pupil in England and Wales must be formally assessed three times before sitting GCSE examinations at the end of compulsory schooling. For children at the age of 7, 11 and 14, this takes two forms: externally-set national tests and their classroom teachers' assessment of their work. As pupils get older, so the length and the number of the tests increase. Under the peace deal with teaching unions, ministers have agreed that teacher assessment should receive equal weighting alongside test results in reports to parents. Tests have also been made shorter and sharper to reduce teachers' workload and will be marked by outsiders. Special papers are available to stretch bright pupils, while teachers will set special tasks to gauge the progress of slower learners. The results will be graded according to the ten-level national curriculum scale. A typical seven-year-old is expected to achieve level two. A typical 11-year-old should reach level four. Fourteen-year-olds should achieve level five or six. However, parents can ask to see their child's mark in each paper before the summer break if they want more detail.

GLENN EDWARDS



Last year's 14-year-old maths tests at the grant-maintained Cwmcarn School, Gwent

Should rugby get the red card?

Anthea Saxon questions a school game that could give her son a permanent injury

Running into danger? Insurers say that the injuries from games of rugby are more severe than from other sports

The juddering tackles, writhing mauls and flailing fists of the five nations' championship are enough to make even the most phlegmatic parent gulp. It takes little to rekindle the parental fear — and let's be honest, it is felt most keenly by mothers — that their son will get seriously injured playing rugby.

I was asked by my son recently: "If I lay quite still on the pitch for ten minutes, would you run on screaming?" My answer in the affirmative means I am now banned from the terror of watching 12-year-olds hurtle into the scrum, teeth, limbs and studs flying in all directions, as I pace the touchline sending safety vibes on to the pitch. As a result, I have to will his protection from long distance. But I am left wondering if any such game that causes such anxiety is worth the candle? More particularly, should it be a mainstream and often compulsory school sport?

More than 3,000 schools are members of the Rugby Football Union, including a handful of girls-only schools. Rugby has an inbuilt advantage for schools, in that it ties up a lot of players in the field. "Rugby is character-building and develops good team spirit," says Ron Tennick, technical administrator for the Rugby Football Union's National Centre for Schools and Youth. "It caters for all shapes and sizes. You can have a tiny agile scrum half and a heavier prop forward."

But school teams cannot always match up to this ideal. In particular, teams of 15 to 18-year-olds are affected by the exigencies of examinations. Dan Hearn, a former international who coached rugby at Haileybury for 15 years despite having being permanently disabled in a game, says this is the most vulnerable age. "There is the greatest disparity in the physical development of boys, while their tremendous enthusiasm and impetuosity also increases the risks."

Huge efforts are being made to improve safety. The Rugby Football Union is constantly reviewing its laws for under-19s. "About five years ago, we changed the way rugby is introduced to children in school," says Ian Beer, last season's president of the Rugby Football Union. "The way it is coached from seven to 12 is called continuum because each year the rules change. There is no tackling at eight. At nine, no handing-off or lineouts. There are small-sided games rather than 15-a-side. Slowly, the game builds up in complexity."

Mr Beer believes that the quality of the coach and his motives are of paramount importance: "The coach who wants to win at all costs is a disaster. One has to remember that the game one sees on television is not what is played in schools. Most schoolboys seem to know how to behave better than some adults."

David Ray, master in charge of rugby at Rugby, says: "The changes affecting all age groups have helped. But what the boys wear, the condition of the pitches and medical facilities are also very important. We don't recommend off-the-peg mouth guards, so the school doctor will measure and purpose-build them. We are also careful to keep dogs off pitches. We see that tetanus injections are up to date."

Despite all this, accidents still happen. Figures for 1993 from Holmwoods, a leading provider of personal accident cover to schools, show that there were 1,185 claims for major sports (cricket, football, hockey and rugby) played in schools. Fifty-four per cent were for rugby injuries, with these accounting for 83 per cent of money paid out for these sports. About 540,000 pupils were covered for personal accident. Holmwoods' director, Peter Newnham, says: "We found that the injuries from rugby are more severe, increasing the likelihood of permanent disability."

Rugby is now optional at Rugby, as at many other schools. "It is important for boys to get confidence through fitness," says Richard Morgan, warden of Radley College. "Instead of shivering on the rugger field, some may get far more value from swimming or basketball."

Not pushing the unwilling on to the rugby field may be financially prudent, too. "I worry about insurance," says Mr Hearn. "I am concerned that in the present climate young people could end up taking each other to court. But I still believe any parent stopping their son playing rugby would be depriving them of a tremendous privilege. It demands levels of skill and courage like no other sport. It is a mad game, but the best people play it."

As I finish writing this, my son comes home. "Worst game ever," he says. "Three of our side have gone to hospital. One with a head injury, one with a broken wrist, and one with loss of sight. And then the opposition crowed after they won 60-0. Real bullies." I am left to wince.

Voices must be raised to return singing to the classroom

Time to put a song in children's hearts

SINGING develops not only musical knowledge but also self-confidence, team spirit and physical fitness. Anyone can do it. It's tremendous fun and very satisfying. So why on earth are we allowing it to slip imperceptibly out of our schools and, by extension, to disappear from national culture?

My head is bubbling with tunes: hymns, operatic arias, music-hall songs, nursery rhymes, themes from symphonies, folk airs. And I first encountered many of them at school. There were regular singing lessons and there was "musical appreciation", taught both formally in lessons and obliquely, by ensuring that we heard "incidental" music every day.

How I lament the demise of the splendid old *National Song Book*, sturdy in its red cover. Suggested by the Board of Education in 1905, it comprised a fine collection of folk songs, carols and rounds edited and arranged for schools by Charles Villiers Stanford and Geoffrey Shaw. And even in the 1950s it was the mainstay of our school singing lessons. When I was 11 or 12, I learnt bits of our musical and historical heritage from it, songs such as *The Lass of Richmond Hill*, *The Vicar of Bray*, *Men of Harlech* and *Rule, Britannia*. All jolly good tunes.

The National Song Book is now almost forgotten. In fact I had great difficulty finding a copy to refer to in order to write this article. That wouldn't matter if it had been replaced by something equally eclectic but it hasn't. Of course there are song books in use in schools but there doesn't seem to be much enthusiasm for singing from either teachers or children. Interminable tinkling away on chime bars and glockenspiels in the interests of "composition" seems to rule the day. Yet the voice is the instrument which everyone has at his or her disposal — tone deafness is largely a myth. It's free and is potentially both beautiful and powerful.

VIEWPOINT

SUSAN ELKIN

My own children learnt many of the songs I was taught in school from records by a folk group, the Yetties. As a family we went to lots of their concerts, which are always informal join-in affairs. The Yetties, of course, would have known *The National Song Book* in their Dorset schools, and their repertoire happily also includes traditional music, music hall songs and war songs.

These days, too many children have nothing in their mental musical repertoire to get their mouths round. Generally, if they "sing" at all they seem to be limited to pop numbers performed thinly from the throat.

Worse, singing becomes "naff" and gets used as a form of stony rebellion in assemblies and the like. Someone plays the piano and the whole school stares silently and insolently into space. Anyone who visits schools will have seen this sad sight. They're missing so much. It's an unsung (literally) form of cultural deprivation.

WHAT a joy to visit a prep school the other day in which the music teacher — himself also a professional performing orchestral musician — was singing with three-year-olds. They were standing up straight and he was getting them to breathe from the diaphragm as they went through nursery and traditional songs. Their unaccompanied sound was strong and clear and they were having a wonderful time. Privileged children indeed.

All children deserve that sort of experience and any teacher with the will could provide it — as long as she or he begins with the very youngest children and knows plenty of songs. And there's the rub. Many adults — perhaps, a generation — are now effectively song-illiterate. It will need a concentrated drive to save school singing from extinction but surely it would be worth the effort?

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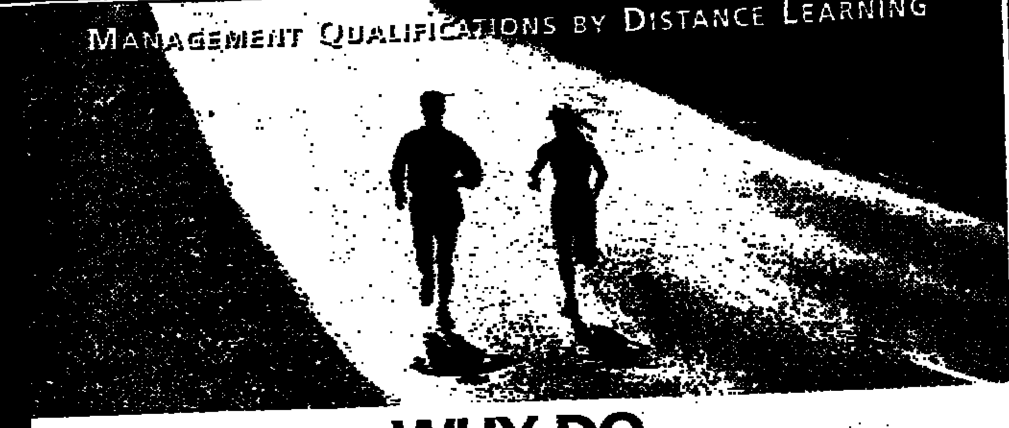

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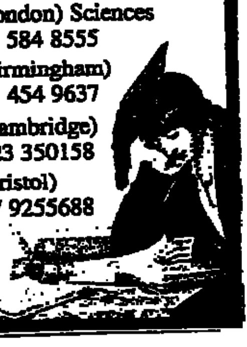

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BANKS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,889.10	Abbey Ntl	447	+11	4.3	15.0
1,799.80	Allied Irish	270	+2½	5.3	10.4
2,937.30	Aus New Z	217	+7	5.4	7.8
10,500.90	Bank America†	3000	+12½	..	
2,353.70	Bank Scotland	201	-6	3.3	11.3
10,094.10	Barclays	617	+12	3.4	15.1
1,454.90	Br of Ireland	306	+1	4.7	8.9
10,851.20	Citicorp	2787½	+112½	..	
221.80	Close Bros	233	-1	4.0	10.5
4,721.50	Commerzbk	£144½	+8½	5.9	
35,704.80	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1143½		0.5	
14,644.00	Deutsche Bk	1308½	+184½	2.3	
162.30	Espirito Santo	759½	+43½	10.8	
116.50	First Nat Fin†	68		2.7	44.0
29,178.90	Fuji Bank Y	1352½	+¼	0.4	
411.20	Hambros	233	+3	8.0	14.3
5,674.30	HSBC	666	-3	4.6	9.6
11,629.00	HSBC Hk	663	+3	4.6	9.6
30.80	Joseph (L)	393		5.6	11.4
827.10	Kleinwort Ben	620	-3	4.4	11.8
7,457.80	Lloyds†	575	+18½	5.6	9.7
6,760.00	Nat Aust Bk	505	+10	6.8	8.6
8,754.50	Nat West	504	+14	5.5	8.3
113.80	Ottoman Bank	2275	+125	6.4	5.5
25.70	Rea Bros	62		1.8	17.4
3,172.00	Ryl Bk Scott	396	-3	4.3	11.3
1,513.00	Schroders	1573	-12	1.5	13.9
392.90	Schroders N/V	1355	-10	1.7	12.4
161.20	Singer & Fried	83	-2	4.7	10.7
2,470.40	Stand Chart	256	-3	2.1	8.8
3,674.40	TSB†	240	+4	4.7	10.2
1,579.60	Warburg SG	718	-8	3.8	12.2
5,546.70	Wells Fargo	£100¾	+3.31¼	2.9	
4,194.10	Westpac	230½	+4¼	2.4	
18.70	Wintrust	220	-4¼	6.0	14.7

BREWERIES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
41.70	Ascot Hldgs	151	-3		
4,434.80	Bass	508	-7	5.2	12.6
294.30	Boddington	242	-4	4.3	13.0
35.60	Burtonwd Brwt	171		3.7	14.3
34.30	Eldridge P 'A'	165		3.1	20.0
1,770.40	Fosters Brewing	55	..	5.1	14.0
69.40	Fulls Sm 'A'	340	+2	2.9	14.1
859.40	Greenalls Grp†	411	-4	4.0	13.5
198.90	Greene King	469	-1	3.5	12.8
52.20	Hardy Hanson†	261	+1	4.5	12.7
3.61	Heavitree	156		3.6	
104.80	Holt J	3380	-8	1.8	18.6
150.30	Mansfield	234		2.5	14.3
247.50	Mrston Thmp	275	-2	2.8	13.4
96.60	Morland	445		3.0	13.4
8.26	Paramount	7		4.4	16.4
47.80	Regent Inns	325	+18	2.3	18.4
4,111.30	SA Breweries	1481¼	+25	1.9	23.6
2,712.70	Scot & New	508	+4	4.3	14.5
303.40	Vaux Group	277	-1	5.7	12.2
169.90	Wetherspoon JD	468	+4	1.8	25.8
2,819.00	Whitbread	539	+2	4.4	14.7
325.20	Wolvrhmptn D	489		3.6	12.7
78.40	Yates Bros	200	+2	2.4	15.8
12.30	Young 'A'	460		4.1	19.5

BUILDING & CONSTRUCT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
50.40	Abbey	130		5.0	9.5
51.00	Allen	158		4.4	14.8
129.50	Amec	61	+2	6.1	35.2
23.70	Andrews Sykes	166	-1		
128.00	Ashtead	421	-1	1.7	18.0
43.10	Avonside	99		5.6	11.6
3.67	Bailey (Ben) Con	35		2.5	21.4
7.67	Barcom	41	-2		
300.60	Barratt Devs	165	+2	4.5	12.8
376.30	Beazer Homes	134	+7	5.0	10.5
190.70	Bellway	196	-4	4.5	11.6
15.30	Bellwinch	34	-2	0.7	18.1
256.00	Berkeley Gp	329	+11	2.7	10.5
26.70	Bett Bros	178		3.2	5.5
57.40	Boot (Henry)	220	-3	3.8	10.8
18.70	Brandon Hire	115	-8	1.6	...
14.60	Br Bldg & Eng	130		7.8	17.6
311.50	Bryant†	112	+2	5.6	10.6
45.10	CALA	105		3.3	14.5
4.90	Campbell & Arm	34	+1		
6.03	Clarke T	49	-3	3.2	41.6
113.90	Costain	22	-½		
75.60	Countryside	99	-1	5.5	12.2
76.70	Crest Nicholson	77½	-1½	3.3	*
14.40	Cussins	81	-4	5.2	9.8
9.17	Edmond Hldgs	18		2.1	
23.30	Eve Group†	238	-5	5.8	9.7
23.10	Galliford	26	-1	4.8	
1.48	Gibbs & Dandy	87		3.9	..
87.20	Gleeson (MJ)	863		2.1	14.8
6.39	Green (Ernst)	83	-1	9.0	25.6
49.60	Havelock Euro	190	-7	2.0	17.4
346.80	Hewden-Stuart	151	+1	2.5	17.3
56.30	Higgs & Hill	85	...	3.7	..
4.94	Howard Hldgs	19		5.3	17.7
3.76	Jarvis	9¼	+¼		
58.80	Keller	105		4.5	12.2
85.60	Laing (J)	187	-8	6.0	16.9
35.30	Laing 6.4% Cv Pf	88	-1	9.1	...
10.60	Lon Clydeside†	117	...	5.7	*
17.90	Lovell (YJ)	45	-1	2.8	5.4
50.20	Maunders (J)	201	-4	3.4	12.0
108.50	McAlpine (A)	157	-1	5.2	23.0
52.20	McCarthy & S	53		..	18.7
15.00	Morgan Sindall	52	+1	0.2	...
158.90	Mowlem (J)	91	-3	2.7	
200.90	Persimmon	172	-5	6.7	12.9
20.80	Pochins	2000		2.0	30.0
87.90	Prowting	113	-2	4.0	17.2
94.00	Raine Ind	50	-½	7.5	10.4
4.89	Secure Retire	47	+1		15.2
210.20	Redrow	85	-1½	3.6	9.4
8.63	Swift-Rw	55		1.7	25.9
39.20	Sheriff Hldgs	370	-12	1.9	15.5
5.80	Sharco	92	-1½	5.0	12.9
20.70	Smart (J)	205	...	5.2	21.5
91.70	Spender	284	+11	1.0	22.9
50.50	Tay Homes	173		4.7	12.7
473.70	Taylor Woodrw	123	-1	1.8	30.0
153.10	Tilbury Dougls	453	-45	9.1	34.7
6.18	Torex Hire†	60		2.9	21.0
11.80	Try Group	17	-2	3.7	..
49.40	Vibroplant	107		4.4	19.2
67.20	Wainhomes	108	-2	6.7	11.7
30.00	Ward Hldgs	57	-1	3.3	*
82.60	Westbury	134		5.4	11.3
23.40	Wiggins	4¼	..		
242.30	Wilson (C)	127	-4	4.2	10.6
293.30	Wilson Bowdn	314	-2	3.8	14.0
454.70	Wimpey G	136	+2	5.2	18.8

BUILDING MATERIALS

DISTRIBUTORS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
25.60	Alld Leis	95	-3	5.3	10.9
58.70	Acal	304	-4	2.9	16.5
23.90	Adam & Harvey	555	-5	3.5	7.0
7.66	Alexanders	19	-¼	6.6	*
60.40	Appleyard	91	-1	8.0	16.1
11.20	Ass Br Eng	4½		1.5	30.3
158.90	BSS Group	530		4.3	18.7
7.66	Bearing Power†	22	-½	5.7	11.3
15.10	Bletchley Mtr	248	-5	5.3	10.2
1.36	Bogod 'A'	28		3.1	11.8
156.30	Brammer	548	+5	4.7	19.3
3.85	Bridgend Gp	14	-1	1.8	72.8
22.40	Brit Fittings	94		3.0	
13.30	Brown & Tawse	41	-1	..	..
40.10	Burndene	38		6.3	*
8.51	Callyns	258		5.6	42.4
15.10	Caskel Plc	16		8.6	8.9
9.73	Central Mtrs	71	+¼	4.8	47.3
15.40	Cook (DC)	36		4.0	11.0
368.70	Cowie	229	+9	5.0	11.4
32.40	Dag Motors	134	-2	6.1	15.4
25.90	Denmans Elt	588		1.4	14.5
239.80	Diploma	429	-6	3.9	15.1
1,051.50	Electrocomponts	500	+7	2.6	20.5
40.30	Electron House†	158	-2	2.8	13.3
209.30	Ellis & Everard†	251	-1	3.9	16.7
94.60	Eurodollar	193	-6	5.5	15.1
53.10	European Mtr	99	-1	5.7	10.8
119.40	Evans Halshaw	373	-3	4.8	11.7
737.60	Farnell Elect	548	-2	1.8	22.4
6.76	File Internat	55		6.2	8.1
22.00	Gardiner	20½		5.0	*
5.06	Glenchewton	20	..		22.1
6.46	Gowrings	71		3.5	21.5
22.90	Hafton Hldgs	62	-5		48.4
18.10	Harris (Philip)	162	-1	5.1	14.7
123.50	Henlys	259		3.6	13.9
2.90	Holders Tech	93	-4	8.1	10.1
39.90	ISA Intl	100	-3	2.1	12.5
1,569.90	Inchcape	296	-3	6.3	8.8
6.36	Jacks (Wm)	58			13.4
251.80	Kwik-Fit	146	-3	3.4	16.7
267.80	Lex Service	281	+2	6.0	10.8
33.70	Lookers	173	-2	5.6	9.3
22.90	Macaya Grp	14		3.2	
41.10	Micklesex O	7¼			
39.50	Norbain	370	-21	0.8	16.5
15.50	Northamber	91	-1	1.8	38.6
13.40	PCT	152		6.1	14.7
86.00	Pendragon	229		4.1	15.0
32.90	Perry Gp	130		6.7	7.1
29.90	Quicks Group	130	+3	5.0	13.7
15.00	REA	165		4.5	34.1
4.87	Reece	2½			
5.61	Ross Gp	4	-½	6.2	
32.40	SEP Indl	40	+1½	3.3	*
14.80	TLS Range	41	-1	3.0	16.5
120.50	Time Products	227		4.8	15.3
78.70	Vardy (Reg)	170	+2	3.9	12.5
34.50	Wholesale Ftgs	243		6.1	21.4
27.20	Wills Gp	15½	+1½	4.0	8.7
56.70	Wichbam	68½	-1½	1.2	23.1
21.00	Wyko	65		2.1	22.1
12.40	Young (H)	75	-4	6.0	14.0

DIVERSIFIED INDUSTRIALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
129.30	Adwest	156	-1	6.0	15.9
463.60	[illegible]	395	-8	1.5	23.9
16.10	Armour	44		5.3	9.1
14,282.20	Broken Hill	862	+20	2.4	18.5
11,477.90	BTR	315½	+4½	5.0	16.7
13,076.20	BAT	424	-8	6.1	11.1
342.30	Bunstord Ind▼	227	-2	0.3	60.1
128.10	Bibby (J)	82	-5	4.6	15.2
1,213.90	Brierley Inv	46½	+½	9.0	2.6
648.70	Charter	757	-10	3.8	22.2
1,224.70	Cookson	217	-6	3.7	19.6
12,295.40	Hanson†	237½	+1½	6.3	14.8
1,020.20	Harrisn Crsfld	145	-1	7.8	16.5
9,404.80	Hutch Whamp	360½	+3¼	2.1	18.7
3,941.90	Jardine Math	548½	-9¼	2.7	12.6
5.22	Jourdan (T)	29		4.3	28.8
1,171.40	Lonrho†	151½	-½	3.7	27.8
37.80	Porter Chadbrn	40	-¼		
394.30	Powell Duffryn	458	-4	6.8	12.9
28.60	Ropner	124	-1	7.6	14.1
899.90	Rothmans	452	-18	5.3	21.8
34.60	Saltire	14	-1		5.4
2,959.00	Sime Darby	140	+1	3.1	17.8
189.90	Staveley	166	-1	6.4	51.1
180.00	Suter	154	-1	7.5	14.8
365.30	TT Group	233	-3	2.4	*
2,680.90	Tomkins†	227	-2	4.3	14.6
686.80	Trafalgar Ht	64	-3	2.0	
57.40	Unidare	295	..	6.3	*
499.40	Wassall	259	-6	1.7	22.2
13.70	Widney†	9¼	+¼	2.6	15.1
1,890.10	Williams Hldg	327	+2	5.0	20.2

ELECTRICITY

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
1,422.00	East Midlands†	736	-28	4.7	30.9
1,742.50	Eastern Grp†	697	-42	4.4	15.3
1,415.40	London Elec	717	-40	4.3	11.0
918.10	Manweb†	797	-62	4.3	9.5
1,395.90	Midlands Elect	732	-52	4.2	11.2
6,089.50	National Power	475	+1½	4.1	13.0
1,183.90	Northern Elec	1058	-54	3.9	10.9
577.70	Nthn Ireland†	351	-5	4.2	8.6
1,242.40	Norweb	799	-39	3.8	9.6
4,027.10	PowerGen	513	+18	3.7	11.1
1,239.40	Hydro-Elect†	323	+6	5.0	10.2
2,733.60	Scottish Power†	335	+6	4.8	10.6
1,065.50	Seeboard	431	-33	3.6	11.8
764.20	Sth Wales†	838	-56	4.4	11.2
914.50	Sth Western†	818	-56	3.9	10.8
1,991.80	Southern Elect	735	-30	4.1	10.7
1,529.20	Yorkshire Elec	832	-42	4.2	14.2

ELECTRONIC & ELECT

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
60.30	Acorn Comp	89½	-5½	..	..
72.40	Admiral	635		1.3	19.5
95.80	Alba	203	+3	3.2	15.7
185.50	Amstrad	159½	+6	2.0	..
25.30	Arlen	34	-3		
248.40	Astec	80½	+1½	1.4	16.5
26.80	Azlan	123	-3	3.0	9.9
1,159.20	BICC	328	-6	7.3	20.7
25.50	Beales Hunter†	241		5.1	12.9
22.30	Berkeley Bus	8½	-½	..	..
138.20	Blick†	453	-2	3.2	15.3
582.80	Bowthorpe	313	+2	2.8	18.0
4.81	Bulgin (AF) 'A'	18½	-½	1.7	10.8
36.10	CML Micro	194		3.9	12.4
12.90	Channel Hldgs	36	-2	4.3	10.2
50.30	Chloride	20¼		0.6	58.1
11.70	Clarkville	63		5.3	*
16.80	Copymore	160	+10	3.4	*
337.10	Cray Electr	142	-5	2.2	16.5

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
3.60	Locker (T) A	12		4.2	
45.90	ML Hldgs†	29	-1	5.0	10.1
6.03	MS Intl	27		8.5	13.3
25.60	Mang Bronze	155	+7	3.2	12.1
383.60	McKechnie	393	-3	4.7	23.1
177.10	Meggitt	79	-3½	6.2	12.7
98.20	Metalrax	108		4.3	17.9
20.30	Metsec	131		2.9	18.2
166.60	Molins	490	-3	4.0	9.9
679.20	Morgan Cble	310	-9	5.2	15.0
22.70	Morris Ashby†	194	+13	4.0	14.0
8.36	Neepsend	34		4.6	17.3
17.60	Newmonics†	68	-1	3.1	*
1.86	Newman (L)	40			
20.20	OMI Intl†	38	-½	7.8	
156.30	Oxford Inst†	321	+2	2.0	18.9
217.20	Powerscreen	248	+7	3.8	10.4
39.70	Prospect Indst	13¼		8.0	6.8
0.59	Ratcom Metal	73	..		
31.30	Ransomes	55	..		
26.60	Record	80		5.6	18.0
142.60	Renishaw	265	-4	3.1	22.4
121.00	Renold	182	+2	2.1	25.2
4.62	Richard (Leics)	56		5.1	39.4
27.10	Richardson Wst	75	-2	5.4	16.5
1,877.30	Rolls-Royce	153	-1	4.1	27.0
143.30	Rotork	164	-1	3.4	16.7
36.80	Rubicon†	158		3.8	25.8
216.90	Senior Eng	72	-3	5.9	11.7
26.60	Servomex	266		3.1	28.4
2,234.20	Siebe†	522	-11	2.7	16.8
128.20	Simon Eng	82			
43.70	Six Hundred	81		2.3	28.0
829.20	SKF 'B'	1300	+153¼		
1,284.90	Smiths Ind	428	-12	3.8	16.4
340.00	Spirax-Sarco	437	+5	2.8	18.6
66.00	Sterling Ind	239		3.7	15.5
1,558.40	TI	333	-17	4.3	18.4
7.18	Tinsley (E)	97		7.2	13.2
58.00	Transtec Tech	60		6.9	8.6
83.30	Triplex Lloyd†	178		6.8	
32.50	Utd Inds	14½		0.9	
575.70	VSEL	1515	+8	2.9	14.2
19.20	Vesper	13	-1		
563.60	Vickers	171	-5	2.6	18.1
106.30	Victaulic	240		4.2	13.2
11.80	Villiers Grp	10			
210.10	Vinten	510	-3	2.0	13.3
231.30	Vosper Thorny	727	-16	3.2	15.7
208.30	Wagon Ind	449		5.1	22.8
449.40	Weir	238	-2	3.6	13.6
48.00	Wellman	39½		3.2	64.5
103.00	Wolseley	446	+8	2.9	16.4
36.30	Whessoe	123		2.3	

ENGINEERING, VEHICLES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
7.59	AAF Inds	33	-2		
13.30	Airflow Stream	157	-2	3.2	15.4
119.10	Avon Rubber†	446	+5	4.6	16.1
763.30	BBA	187	-7½	3.0	
149.40	BSG	51	-3½	7.8	31.9
13.60	Benson Group	9½	-1½	4.7	12.9
47.10	Boston	298	+2	2.5	17.0

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
274.50	Bankers†	177	-2	2.8	..
45.50	Baring Em Eu	36¾	+¼	0.3	
161.60	Baring Tribne	315	-2	2.7	
11.50	Berry Starq	221	-1	1.2	*
283.90	Br Assets	88		6.2	
114.10	Br Empire Sec	85½	-1	1.4	
3.72	Br Empire Wts	28	-1	..	...
633.40	Br Inv	203	+2	3.0	
55.30	Brunner	88½	+11¼	0.4	
137.60	Bumpert	215	-1	3.2	*
66.80	BZW Conv	130½	-½	7.5	
78.20	Candover	349	-2	4.0	..
82.00	Central Euro Gwth	41			
32.60	China & Eastern	160	+1	2.8	
39.40	Cont Assets	180		2.1	
5.54	Dover Inv Inc†	76	-1	13.1	
44.90	Derby Cap	293	-7		
18.40	Derby Inc†	156	+1	13.5	
7.33	Drayton Blue	58		18.1	
46.10	Dryn Eng Intl	94	+1	1.1	
153.20	Dryn Far East	132½	-2¼	0.6	*
201.90	Dunedin Inc G	631	-4	5.2	
16.10	Dunedin Japan	79½	-2		
50.40	Dunedin Smlr	308	-2	3.8	*
2.12	Dunedin Wts	38½	-3		
234.80	Dunedin Wrldw	701	...	1.7	
246.50	Edin Dragon	93¼	-¼		
23.90	Edinburgh Inc	24		0.2	
855.00	Edinburgh	291	-3	3.8	
13.50	EFM Japan	135	-4		
548.70	Electra Inv	317	+3	2.9	
167.20	Electric Gen	185	-1½	2.2	
8.05	Eng & Caledon†	179		2.8	
1.45	English Scot	110			
71.10	European Asset	285	-1	2.1	*
81.50	Fidelity Euro Val	156½	-1½	0.2	
72.70	Fidelity Jap Val	89	-2		
24.60	Finsbury 'A'	154		2.4	
5.70	First Spanish	66½		0.5	
193.20	Fleming Amer†	288	+1	0.7	*
37.90	Fleming Chinese	62¾	-3¼	1.0	
3.96	Fleming Ch Wts	33			
111.70	Fleming Claver†	202	-1	3.5	*
195.60	Fleming Cont	239½	-½	0.9	
133.00	Fleming Em Mkts	137½	+½		
81.00	Fleming Enpt	202½		3.0	
465.70	Fleming F East	308	-3½	0.6	
42.70	Fleming Fledg	339	-4	1.1	
30.50	Fleming Hi Inc†	94		5.9	
59.20	Fleming Indian	70½	+1	1.6	
6.89	Fleming In Wts	41	+1		
22.20	Fleming Intl	30	-1	14.9	
387.30	Fleming Japan	224	-5		
387.30	Fleming Merc	368	+1	3.1	
40.50	Fleming Nat Res	81	-2		
370.50	Fleming Overs†	279	-3½	1.9	
1,368.30	Foreign & Col	130	-1	1.7	..
40.30	For & Col Inc Gwth	94	-2	2.8	
191.60	Frgn Emg Mkts	102	+½		
66.30	Frgn Enterprise	70½	+½	1.4	*
134.40	Frgn Eurotst	216	+1	0.7	
48.70	Frgn German	124	+2	0.5	
341.80	Frgn Pacific	237	-2	1.1	
66.70	Frgn PEP	123		3.6	
161.80	Frgn Smaller	154½	-1	1.7	
48.70	Frgn US Sml	97	-1		

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
306.80	Inv Capt	124	...	5.2	
32.40	Intl Biotech	85			
	Intl Wts	28			
29.90	INVESCO Korea	130	+2		
26.10	J Fry 2nd U	90	-2	8.4	
9.59	J Fry Euro U	90	-1	6.7	
117.10	JF Fledg Jap	186	-3		
25.40	Jupiter Intl Gm	101		4.3	
165.20	Klnwt Chrtt	204		3.2	
29.60	Klnwt E Mkt	104½	+2		
34.20	Klnwt End	114			
383.80	Klnwt Euro Pvt	76¼		1.3	
24.80	Klnwt Euro Wts	24½			
24.50	Klnwt H Inc†	82	-1	12.2	
179.60	Klnwt O'seas	224	-1	1.9	
15.60	Klnwt Smlr	118		3.3	
93.40	Latin American	92¾	-3¼		
165.60	Law Debenture	734		3.3	
22.50	Lazard H Inc	99	+1	8.1	
19.40	Lloyds Sm Cap	79			
6.97	Lloyds Sm Dw	38		15.8	
35.00	Lloyds Sm Pkg	106		4.2	
53.20	Lon St Lawrence	164	+2	4.8	

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
11.70	Mansion	57			
253.70	Merchants†	248	-6	5.6	
468.60	Mercury Euro Pv	87½	-½	0.9	
31.10	Mercury Eur Wt	27	+½		
374.70	Mercury World	88	+3		
18.70	Mercury Wld Wts	22			
290.30	Monks Inv Tst	503	+1	1.7	
44.90	Morg Gren Inc	130		4.6	
2.13	Morg Wts	44			
38.80	Morg Lat Amer	60½	+2		
3.79	Morg Wts	29½	+½		
29.90	Murray Ent	112	-2	2.4	
52.60	Murray Emg Eco	81			
17.20	Murray Euro†	57½	+¼	0.8	
275.90	Murray Income	320	-4	4.7	

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
373.20	Murray Intl	310½	-1½	5.1	
10.40	Murray S/C DP	163			
7.17	Murray S/C Cap	128	+1		
5.92	Murray S/C Inc†	74	-1	17.9	
1.56	Murray S/C Ulst	3000		4.4	...
220.50	Murray Small	393	-3	1.4	
80.80	Murray Vent	327		4.4	
1.30	Murray Em Wts	27			
0.84	Murray Eu Wts	14			
5.79	Newmarket	16			
21.10	Northrop Inc†	54		9.8	
15.90	Northrop Cap	64			
123.80	Oseas Inv Tst	225	-1	1.3	
3.21	Oseas Wts	179		...	...
92.60	Pacific Assets	454	+9	0.4	*
11.50	Pacific Wts	356	+7		
30.00	Perpetual Jap	82	-1½		
17.60	Personal Assets	8600		2.8	
43.40	Pilot Inv	117	-2	1.7	
8.28	Piper Euro Sm	82	-1		
82.60	Prolific Inc	89½	-½		
305.40	RIT Cap Ptnr	169		1.1	
10.50	River Merc Am Cap	28			
7.50	River Merc Am Inc	100		9.8	
0.71	River Merc Am Wts	9½			
47.10	River Merc Cap	117	-1		
30.80	River Merc Ex Inc†	83	-3	11.7	
0.66	River Merc Ex IncW†	11	-1		
11.60	River Merc Grd Inc	93	+2	11.5	
9.28	River Merc Grd Pfd	26½			
21.90	River Merc Tst Inc	109		10.8	
1.30	River Merc Wt	21½			
29.00	River Merc Sm Co	115	-3	4.5	
0.97	River Merc Sm Wt	20	-3		
	Robeco	394		3.2	
	Rolinco	338		2.0	
90.00	Schrod Jap Gwth	72	-5½		
7.12	Schrod Jap Gwth Wt	28½	-3		
50.10	Schrod Korea Fd	758½	-2½	0.2	
4.00	Sch Korea Fd Wr	363½	-1¼		
42.60	Sch Spl Zero Dw	112½	+¼		
8.07	Sch Split Fd Cap	28½			
61.70	Sch Split Fd Inc†	109	+1	8.6	*
106.10	Schrod UK Gwth	90½		2.1	
	Schrod UK Gwth Wt	30			
531.70	Scot	208½	+1½	3.1	
338.80	Scot American†	151½	+¼	4.1	
49.40	Scot Asian	235	-1		
3.99	Scot Wts	570	-5		
500.50	Scot Eastern	79	+1	2.5	
768.30	Scot Mtge	213	-1	2.4	
133.50	Scot Natl Tst	83½	+1½	11.2	
51.60	Scot Value	102½	+1	2.4	
297.40	Second Alliance†	1549	-10	3.5	...
255.40	Sec Tst of Scot	79¼	-¼	5.1	
37.90	Selective Asset	131		1.5	
24.40	SHIRESCOT	126		5.7	*
40.60	Sphere Inv†	33½		14.4	*
102.90	St Andrew Inv	299		3.5	*
190.80	Temple Bar	333	-1	5.4	*
101.70	Thmto Asian E	101½	-½	0.6	...
17.30	Throg Dual Co	493			
211.90	Throgmorton	69¾		4.2	
431.30	Tpton Emg Mkt	107½	+2½	0.8	..
291.10	TR City Of Lon†	142½		4.6	
86.70	TR Far East†	140½	-½	5.2	

LEISURE & HOTELS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
144.20	City Centre Rest	75	-1	3.0	15.2
752.40	Compass Grp†	316	-4	2.7	16.4
63.90	Eurocamp†	243		5.4	10.8
1,132.90	Euro Disney	148	+5		
19.90	Euro Leisure	2¼			
14.80	Fairline Boats†	428		4.6	19.6
172.70	First Choice	109	-7	4.5	27.9
441.20	First Leisure	270	-10	3.3	16.8
2,256.20	Forte	239	+3	3.9	28.3
31.80	Friendly Hotels	160		4.5	25.8
7.24	GR Hldgs	55		2.5	...
2,979.80	Granada	512	-8	2.4	15.2
14.70	Hi-Tec Sports	29	-6	12.0	4.3
9.30	Hornby	112		10.0	9.8
63.70	Jurys Hotel	187½	+3¼	3.7	16.9
40.90	Kunick†	17		3.7	18.5
191.20	London Clubs	270	-5	5.5	13.7
2,007.90	Ladbroke	172½	-2½	2.5	30.4
2.79	Magnola	49	-2	0.3	
78.40	Man Utd	129	+6	4.1	21
536.10	Mandarin Ornt	77¼	+½	4.2	19.8
30.10	My Kinda Town	12½	-¼		
29.30	Northern	74		5.1	12.3

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Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
54.30	CIA Gp	134	...	1.6	21.7
34.90	Caledonian Med	23½	+½		
278.50	Capital Radio	382		2.2	23.8
2,049.30	Carlton Comm	991	+11	2.5	16.1
6.78	City of Lon	86	-1	6.4	13.1
69.20	Daily Mail	1384½		1.5	23.5
1,076.70	Daily Mail 'A'	1081¼	+6¼	1.9	18.3
193.70	Dorling Kind	298	-10	1.4	31.9
768.70	EMAP	389	-3	2.9	21.5
4,099.40	Elsevier	823¼	+15½	3.2	19.3
343.60	Euromoney Pb	1575	..	3.4	22.7
4.09	Fitch	11½			
332.10	Flextech	356	-9		
58.40	GWR Grp	885		1.9	*
44.10	Gold Greenless†	165	+2	3.0	19.9
9.29	Goodhead	23		0.3	
40.60	Grampian	288	-6	3.5	15.4
129.80	HTV Group	146	-1	1.5	32.1
3.80	Harrington K	38	-2	3.3	...
51.20	Haynes Pub	328		3.5	18.0
116.20	Hodder H'line	333	-2	2.0	54.2
15.30	Home Counties	153		4.1	37.5
321.90	Independent	268		2.8	13.8
60.60	Ind Bus Comm	223	-1	1.9	11.3
7.02	Infoeuropa	135		7.2	34.2
193.40	Johnston Press	145	-1	1.6	20.3
7.96	Lopex	15	-1	2.1	17.0
68.30	MAID	84			
55.20	Metal Bulletin	568		2.5	29.0
164.10	Midland Ind	119	+2	2.9	16.3
566.40	Mirror Gp	136	+5	0.9	7.2
114.70	More O'Ferrall	353	-2	4.7	20.4
5,324.30	News Corp	286	+22	0.5	18.6
1,712.70	News Intl†	248	+21	1.2	4.8
7.26	Osprey Comms	27			*
3,146.60	Pearson	569	+6	2.9	19.6
67.80	Phonelink	191	-2		
72.40	Portsmth Sund	603		2.3	12.4
39.30	Quarto	214		3.5	11.7
4,211.30	Reed Intl	748	+14	3.3	22.6
7,489.30	Reuters	449	+6	2.3	20.4
208.20	Saatchi	94½	-11½		18.4
58.70	Scot Radio	254	-2	2.7	30.2
203.80	Scot TV	422	-6	3.7	28.3
40.10	SelecTV	28	-2		
44.60	Standwick	33		4.9	*
34.40	Southnews	222	-12	1.9	22.3
17.20	Sterling Pub	37		12.6	3.4
7.12	Sunset & Vine	125		4.0	10.9
75.70	Taylor Nelson	34½	+½	2.2	20.8
589.90	Telegraph	436	+56	3.8	18.2
4,397.00	Thomson Corp†	755	-10	5.6	37.7
246.30	Trinity Ind	359	-5	3.5	16.5
70.00	Ulster TV	667		3.0	20.5
1,229.80	Utd Newspaps	503	+11	5.7	12.2
10.20	VTR	98	-2	5.1	10.5
6.30	WMGO	9½		13.9	4.4
763.70	WPP	106	-5	1.2	15.2
213.40	Yorkshire TV	420	-1		

MINING

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5.88	Alex Corp	90		4.2	-
11.80	Weeks Grp	10			
1,540.00	Woodside	231	+7	1.6	..
75.60	XCL	40	+3	.	...

MEDIA

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
107.80	Abbott Mead	339	+1	2.2	30.7
50.20	Adscene	282	-18	3.1	17.5
194.20	Aegis Gp	23¾	-1¼	..	..
3.78	Allied Radio	2½			
1.08	BBB Design	13			35.9
31.60	Barbour Index	187		5.9	16.5
4.98	Bankside	5½			
4.97	Black (A&C)	330		5.3	11.6
185.30	Blenheim Gp	199	-6	6.5	7.4
20.60	Border TV†	202	-1	2.7	17.7
57.50	Bristol	353		4.4	35.9
4,279.10	B Sky B	249½	-2½		47.0

OTHER FINANCIAL

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
15.20	BWD	79	+4	6.6	6.5
39.30	Baltic Plc	130		1.9	8.2
4.22	Barry Bch Nbl	65	-7	9.6	9.8
92.10	Bristec	156	-2		
25.70	Brewin Dolphin†	124	+5	5.0	9.5

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
524.40	Caledonia	631	-3	3.3	17.2
60.00	Camellia	2400		1.7	6.4
29.40	Carlisle	18½	..	1.7	...
142.80	Cater Allen	438	...	8.1	9.0
213.00	Cattles	157	+9	4.2	17.6
6.58	Christie	38	-3	..	61.9
6.79	EFG	14½		0.9	9.5
23.90	EFT Group	68	-1	3.2	14.3
139.20	EFM	734	+5	4.1	32.0
221.80	Exco	180	-3	5.9	5.0
339.50	Gartmore	168½	-½	3.0	19.5
213.30	Gerrard Nat	438	...	6.8	12.6
210.80	Govett	300	+11	6.1	5.0
210.30	Henderson Ad	978		5.8	13.6
444.10	Invesco	160		2.8	27.7
13.20	Investment Co.	48	+3	4.6	15.3
60.00	Ivory Sime	204	..	4.6	15.9
2,264.30	Jardine Strat	239¼	-4¼	3.5	9.6
18.10	Johnson Fry	121	-4	1.6	3.8
16.90	King Stanson	97	..	11.6	9.6
147.00	Lon Forfaiting	145	+5	8.4	*
70.30	Lon Scot Bnk	117	-1	4.4	*
720.90	M & G	989	-3	3.9	17.0
775.00	MAI	237	-5	4.1	12.9
	MAI 5.9% Cv Pf	92	-1½	..	..
1,386.50	MAM	763	-5	3.8	17.8
11.90	Nat Home Loans▲	10¼	+½	..	0.9
324.90	Perpetual	1217	-21	3.6	13.2
745.60	Provident	556	+6	4.7	13.3
54.90	Rathbone Br	280	+2	3.8	13.8
63.20	Rutland Tst	25½		4.4	12.9
36.60	S & U	310	+19	4.4	10.1
24.30	Stanelco	144	-11	7.8	5.4
298.70	SJP Capital	109	-1	3.4	7.7
298.80	Smith New Crt	442		2.8	5.1
11.70	Tonny Law	76	-1	7.7	17.7
20.00	Tho Hldgs▼	24	+1	0.5	39.4
22.30	Unove	84	-3	6.7	7.8
3.90	Western Selection†	26	+2	1.2	

PHARMACEUTICALS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
212.00	Bro Biotech	439	-52	..	..
29.50	Cantab Pharms	298			
186.50	Celltech	263	-4		
84.30	Chiroscience	124	+1		
37.60	Cortecs	34	..	..	...
863.90	Fisons	125	+6	2.7	
19,234.80	Glaxo†	629	-12	5.6	15.2
79.90	European Hdg	115	+1	6.0	21.3
503.90	Medeva	176	..	2.1	14.2
2.92	Premier Health	7			
32.90	Quadrant Care	335		2.4	11.6
220.20	Scotia	349	-5		
8.37	Shield Diag	45	-3		
7,003.50	SmithKline	507½	+15½	3.2	
6,327.30	Smithkline Uts	483	+20	3.4	
8,795.70	Wellcome	1011	-17	2.9	21.4
8,315.30	Zeneca	879	-19	3.9	17.7

PRINTING & PAPER

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
22.70	AG Holdings	126		5.5	11.9
88.20	API	412	+5	2.8	19.6
2,012.30	Arjo Wiggins	246	+22	3.3	37.1
22.30	Aspen Comms	164	-1	3.8	18.6
115.40	Bemrose	363		4.3	13.0
2,041.60	Bowater	407½	+11½	4.0	15.3
746.50	Bowater Inc	2040¼	+34¼	...	
77.80	Boxmore Intl	283		1.8	17.3
148.30	Br Polythene	491		3.1	17.2
4.19	Br Thornton†	26	-2	9.6	2.3
197.10	Briton Grp	143	+11	2.2	21.1

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
11.30	ERA Gp	9			
13.60	Essex Furn	119	+3	4.5	14.9
119.40	Etam	182	-2	5.3	10.1
263.00	Fine Art Dev	330	-2	5.5	10.2
3.31	Fired Earth	58	..	...	...
17.80	Flying Flowers	98	+1	2.4	12.6
43.80	French Conn	274	+2		17.6
164.70	Frost Group	234	+4	2.9	23.6
12.10	Gaveyo	53	-2	3.5	18.9
27.80	Goldsmiths Gp	127		1.9	22.8
5,160.80	GUS†	513	-7	3.3	14.7
43.10	Hamleys	189	-1	3.1	18.2
5.25	Hampden Grp	35	...	3.6	
346.70	Hse of Fraser	151	-6	4.1	13.6
16.50	Hughes (T J)	80		4.0	13.1
75.30	JJB Sports	251	+1	3.0	15.3
2,621.40	Kingfisher	423	+9	4.4	17.1
15.20	Kleeneze†	109		1.7	31.0
56.00	Liberty	250	-5	2.4	...
342.60	Lloyds Chem	282	+1	4.2	9.2
683.60	MFI	114	-1	4.6	14.3
10,470.00	Marks Spencer	375	-2	3.2	16.7
284.70	Menzies (John)†	512	+5½	3.0	12.1
59.30	Moss Bros	340		3.0	13.8
984.10	Next	263	+3	3.2	16.1
1.99	OEM	31	..		...
23.80	Oliver (G)	94		1.3	*
30.10	Partridge Fine	91		4.6	*
26.90	Peckos	8	-½		
53.50	QS Hldgs	135	...	4.8	14.8
7.14	Rhino Grp	8½	-4½	..	
24.10	Rosebys	120	..	4.9	14.0
1,493.30	Sears	98½	-2	4.7	16.7
52.80	Signet Group	18	-½		8.2
1,176.50	Smith WH†	422	-11	4.6	21.7
238.50	Sothebys	703	-5	4.0	30.3
932.10	Storehouse	224	-2	3.2	18.4
50.30	Stylo	173	-10	1.9	11.7
103.00	T & S Stores	159	+1	4.9	11.3
51.10	Tie Rack	99½	-1½	2.2	11.8
5.82	Upton & Sowth	3¼	...		
303.40	Vendome	434	-16	2.3	33.4
40.70	WEW Group	28	-1	3.1	23.7
7.26	Wld of Leather	60		1.6	..
59.70	Wyevale	156	+1	3.7	16.5

SPIRITS, WINES & CIDERS

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
5,201.50	Allied Domecq†	505	+7	5.8	13.6
210.80	Bulmer (HP)	400	-1	3.5	21.6
68.20	Burn Stewart	115	-1	5.4	25.3
7,874.60	Grand Met†	377½	+9½	4.6	17.0
8,459.60	Guinness	419	-3	3.9	13.8
524.20	Highland Dist	395	-1	2.3	18.0
241.20	Macallan-Glen	207	-1	0.7	54.2
90.40	Martin Mrtn 'A'	660		1.9	28.4
249.70	Matthew Clark†	544	-3	4.3	25.0
9.37	Minyown W	86	-2	3.6	.
157.50	Taunton Cider	144	-2	5.9	11.2

SUPPORT SERVICES

Mkt cap (million)	Company	Price (p)	Wkly +/-	Yld %	P/E
181.80	ACI Group	103	-½	6.4	10.9
930.30	ADT	670	+25		
16.30	Alphameric	39			29.7
77.70	Auto Sec	65	-3		8.4
981.80	BET Ord	105	+1½	4.1	15.0
34.20	BNB Res	160	-1	4.0	18.7
58.60	BPP	223		5.0	15.9
41.90	BSM	150	-14	5.4	12.8
15.50	Black & Edg	3			..
163.30	Borland	575	..		
47.30	Brit Data Mgt	194	-8	3.5	13.7
7.80	Brooks Service	65		3.4	...
51.10	CRT Gp	76		5.6	18.5
86.00	Capita Group	157		2.2	20.0
827.90	Chubb Sec	296	-13	2.8	17.2
54.70	Comput People	224	-1	1.4	51.0
37.90	Corp Services	68	+2	0.5	25.6

BRITISH FUNDS

SHORTS (under 5 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
214	Gas 3% 1990-95	99 13/32		3.02	6.31
2,500	Exch 10¼% 1995	101 15/32	- 1/32	10.10	6.71
640	Treas 12¾% 1995	104 1/32	- 1/16	12.26	6.97
775	Treas 14% 1996	105 27/32	- 1/32	13.22	7.10
1,150	Treas 15¼% 1996	108¼	- 1/32	14.02	7.42
830	Exch 13¼% 1996	106 5/16	- 1/32	12.43	7.54
3,409	Conv 10% 1996	103½	+ 1/16	9.66	7.81
1,999	Treas 7% 1997	97 19/32	+ 1/16	7.17	8.15
1,220	Treas 13¼% 1997	109⅛	- 1/16	12.14	7.98
3,700	Exch 10½% 1997	104 19/32	+ 1/32	10.04	8.02
5,550	Treas 8¾% 1997	101 1/16 †	- 1/32	8.65	8.25
830	Exch 15% 1997	115 7/32	- 1/32	12.97	8.34
3,550	Exch 9¾% 1998	103¼	- 1/16	9.43	8.45
8,156	Treas 7¼% 1998	96⅞ †	+ 1/16	7.48	8.45
1,200	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	95 11/32	+ 1/32	7.08	8.48
970	Treas 14% 1998-01	115 1/32	- 1/32	12.17	8.60
935	Treas 15½% 1998	121¼ †	- 1/32	12.78	8.52
3,999	Exch 12% 1998	110⅝	- 1/32	10.85	8.62
1,998	Treas 9½% 1999	103 1/32	- 1/32	9.22	8.58
3,050	Exch 12¼% 1999	112 5/32 †	- 1/32	10.92	8.66
1,252	Treas 10½% 1999	106 9/32	- 1/16	9.85	8.63
6,250	Treas 6% 1999	90 11/16	- 1/32	6.62	8.60
1,795	Conv 10¼% 1999	106 1/16	- 1/32	9.66	8.69

MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
5,356	Conv 9% 2000	101 15/32 †	- 1/32	8.86	8.64
2,800	Treas 8% 2000	97 1/16	- 1/32	8.21	8.59
3,171	Treas 13% 2000	118	- 1/32	11.02	8.77
4,406	Treas 10% 2001	105 27/32 †	- ⅛	9.46	8.79
7,200	Treas 7% 2001	91⅝	- ⅛	7.65	8.72
6,527	Treas 9¾% 2002	105⅛ †	- ⅛	9.27	8.82
3,250	Treas 8% 2003	95 11/16	- 1/32	8.36	8.75
2,506	Treas 10% 2003	107 †	- ⅛	9.35	8.83
1,629	Treas 11½% 2001-04	112 †	- 1/32	10.27	8.92
543	Fund 3½% 1999-04	74 9/32	- 1/32	4.71	7.43
3,412	Conv 9½% 2004	104 9/32	- ⅛	9.08	8.78
6,500	Treas 6¾% 2004	87¼		7.77	
6,480	Treas 8½% 2005	98 11/16	- 1/32	8.60	8.86
4,842	Conv 9½% 2005	104 15/32	- 1/16	9.06	8.75
2,200	Treas 12½% 2003-05	120 27/32	- 11/32	10.35	9.01
3,900	Treas 7¾% 2006	93⅝ †	- 1/32	8.30	8.66
2,000	Treas 8% 2002-06	94 1/32	- 11/16	8.48	8.70
3,150	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	115 5/32	- ⅛	10.20	9.03
7,197	Treas 8½% 2007	98 11/16	- 1/16	8.59	8.64
1,250	Treas 13½% 2004-08	127 11/32 xd	- ⅛	10.60	9.02
5,621	Treas 9% 2008	102⅝	- 1/16	8.75	8.63
3,450	Treas 8% 2009	94 13/32 xd	- 1/16	8.42	8.62

LONGS (over 15 years)

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
4,750	Treas 6¼% 2010	80 15/32	- 1/32	7.75	8.51
5,273	Conv 9% 2011	103 15/32	- 1/32	8.70	8.60
5,361	Treas 9% 2012	103 11/16	- ⅛	8.68	8.59
1,000	Treas 5½% 2008-12	74⅛ †	- 1/32	7.43	8.34
5,800	Treas 8% 2013	95⅛ †	- ⅛	8.41	8.53
800	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	92 23/32	- 11/32	8.37	8.54
7,550	Treas 8¾% 2017	102⅜ †	- 1/16	8.55	8.51
1,000	Exch 12% 2013-17	129¾	- 1/16	9.25	8.74

UNDATED

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
1,900	War Ln 3½%	41⅜	+ 1/16	8.46	..
475	Treas 2½%	28 29/32 xd	- ⅛	8.64	..

INDEX-LINKED

Stock Outstanding (£m)	Stock	Price £	Wkly +/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
1,200	Treas IL 2% 1996	204 †	+ ⅛	1.97	3.67
800	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	107½	+ 1/16	2.79	3.70
1,500	Treas IL 2½% 2001	167¼ †	+ 1/16	3.41	3.86
1,300	Treas IL 2½% 2003	163⅛	+ 1/16	3.51	3.87
1,000	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	108 23/32	- 1/16	3.54	3.88
1,750	Treas IL 2% 2006	169⅝	+ 1/16	3.60	3.86
1,750	Treas IL 2½% 2009	153⅝	+ 1/16	3.65	3.87
2,100	Treas IL 2½% 2011	158 9/32	- 1/16	3.69	3.89
2,300	Treas IL 2½% 2013	130 11/32	- 1/16	3.71	3.89
2,700	Treas IL 2½% 2016	138⅛	- 1/16	3.73	3.90
2,750	Treas IL 2½% 2020	133	- 1/16	3.75	3.90
2,450	Treas IL 2½% 2024	110 7/16	- 1/16	3.74	3.88

TODAY

Interims: Bolton Group, Community Hospitals, Edinburgh Income Trust, Essex Furniture, Gartmore Scotland IT, Go-Ahead Group, Heritage, Johnson Fry Utilities, Primadona. **Finals:** Burlington Group, Capita Group, CrestaCare, Dixon Motors, HSBC Holdings, Leeds & Holbeck Building Society, London Finance & Investment Group, Midland Bank, Millgate, Pegasus Group, Regina. **Economic statistics:** M0 figures (February — provisional).

TOMORROW

Interims: Henderson Euro Trust, Isotron, MR-Data Management, Murray Income Trust, River & Mercantile Smaller Companies Trust, William Sinclair, TR European Growth Trust. **Finals:** Admiral, Blagg, Burford Holdings, Cantab Pharmaceuticals, Capital Shopping, Central European Growth, Corporate Services, Cowie Group, General Accident, Govett & Co, Dominick Hunter, London Finance & Investment, McDonnell Information Systems, Mediterranean Fund, Midland Independent News, RPS Group, Scottish Eastern IT, Sleepy Kids, Sphere IT, Spring Ram, WPP Group. **Economic statistics:** Monthly digest of statistics (February), economic trends (February), major British banking groups' mortgage lending (January).

WEDNESDAY

Interims: Johnson Fry European, Jos Holdings, Linx Printing Technologies. **Finals:** Associated British Ports, Boddington Group, BWD Securities, Grafton Group, Graham Group, HTV Group, Lasmo, Lex Service, North American Gas IT, Record Holdings, Serco Group, Stat-Plus Group, Transatlantic Holdings, Vickers, Yorkshire Food. **Economic statistics:** Overseas travel and tourism (December).

THURSDAY

Interims: Brierley Investments, Chesterton International, Ex-Lands, Finelist Group, Galliford. **Finals:** Abbey National, J Billam, British Aerospace, Life Sciences International, Mercury World Mining, Murray International Trust, Sun Alliance, George Wimpey, Zeneca. **Economic statistics:** UK official reserves (February).

FRIDAY

Interims: Waterman Partnership. **Finals:** Henlys Group, Lilleshall, Nightfreight, Second Market Investment Company. **Economic statistics:** Full monetary statistics — including bank and building society balance sheets, bill turnover statistics, lending secured on dwellings, official operations in the money market, sterling certificates of deposit, sterling commercial paper and personal lending (January).

COMPANIES

PHILIP PANGALOS

HSBC empire fights back with £3bn

HSBC HOLDINGS: As the banks' reporting season continues, today's profits from HSBC, the international banking group whose empire includes Midland Bank, are expected to top the £3 billion mark as lower provisions more than offset a slump in dealing profits.

Uncertainty over China and Hong Kong may continue to shadow the group, but NatWest Securities is looking for final pre-tax profits to advance by 21 per cent to £3.11 billion (£2.58 billion). Market forecasts range from £2.7 billion to £3.14 billion. An increased dividend of 26p-28p (23.5p) is predicted.

NatWest expects HSBC's pre-provision profits to be down by over 10 per cent to £3.22 billion, with dealing profits forecast to slump to £281 million (£808 million). Lower provisions in Asia and the United Kingdom are expected to help the bad debt charge fall to £395 million (£1.16 billion). The figures will also be boosted by disposal gains in Asia and the UK.

Marine Midland, the US banking subsidiary, has already reported a surge in profits to $348 million ($149 million). Midland is likely to show a £400 million fall in profits to £1.01 billion because of poorer Treasury dealing, although there will be a gain of £65 million on the sale of the stake in the 3i venture capital group. Lower dealing revenues are expected to see pre-disposal profits at Hongkong Bank slip to £1.48 billion (£1.52 billion).

GENERAL ACCIDENT: Kind weather in the final quarter is expected to help GA continue the trend of improved trading, though its estate agency side could still be in the red. Overseas should feature good results from Australasia, recovery in the US and Europe, but setback in Canada.

David Hudson, of Credit Lyonnais Laing, expects a positive result from GA's UK non-life operation and an improvement in claim frequencies to help final pre-tax profits advance to £410 million (£294.9 million). A dividend of 28.75p (27.5p) is predicted. Market forecasts range from £410 million to £440 million.

BAe chiefs Bob Bauman, left, and Dick Evans await the outcome of their contested bid for VSEL

VICKERS: The Challenger tanks to Rolls-Royce cars group, which recently announced a deal with Germany's BMW to supply a new generation of engines for prestige Rolls-Royce and Bentley cars, should drive to sharply higher profits on Wednesday. Colin Fell, of Kleinwort Benson, expects final pre-tax profits to rise to £45 million (£32 million), with a dividend of at least 4p (3p). Market forecasts range from £42 million to £48 million.

ABBEY NATIONAL: The building society turned bank should report a healthy advance in full-year profits on Thursday, as lower provisions and an improved share of the mortgage market offset some erosion in lending margins.

Martin Hughes, of Credit Lyonnais Laing, has pencilled in final pre-tax profits of £887 million (£704 million), with a dividend of 17.1p (14p) predicted. Forecasts range from £860 million to £902 million.

BRITISH AEROSPACE: Britain's biggest defence contractor should please the City on Thursday when it unveils final figures showing a return to the black. Bob Bauman, chairman, and Dick Evans, chief executive, also await an Office of Fair Trading ruling in the coming weeks on the contested bid for VSEL, the Trident submarine maker.

BAe has already forecast profits of about £185 million for 1994, announced at the time of its proposed regional jet joint venture with ATR, jointly owned by Aerospatiale of France and Alenia of Italy. The turnround from losses of £237 million last time will be boosted by a huge one-off gain on the sale of Rover Group and some progress on defence orders.

Sandy Morris, of NatWest Securities, forecasts FRS3 final pre-tax profits of £195 million, with a dividend of 10.5p (8.3p) predicted. However, Mr Morris says that the 1994 results will be distorted by several one-off factors These include a £299 million profit on the sale of Rover, a £16 million loss on the sale of corporate jets, a £30 million charge for the cost of early debt settlement and a hefty £215 million provision for the phasing out of the Jetstream 61 turbo-prop planes.

GEORGE WIMPEY: Thursday should provide evidence from what is now expected to be the UK's largest housebuilder, with completions at George Wimpey forecast to reach about 8,000 units. Christopher Grant, of BZW, is looking for final pre-tax profits to advance to £47 million (£25.5 million), with a dividend of 5.5p (5.25p) predicted.

Attention will focus on what Wimpey has to say about the effects in the early part of this year of higher interest rates on an already struggling housing market.

ZENECA: A strong agrochemicals performance and healthy pharmaceutical sales should ensure a healthy profits advance when the drugs group reports full-year figures on Thursday. Analysts expect pre-tax profits of between £750 million and £780 million, excluding an exceptional £100 million restructuring charge. A dividend of 28.5p-29p (27.5p) is predicted.

Zeneca has left little room for surprises, after saying last month that 1994 trading was broadly in line with expectations. Pharmaceuticals, which accounted for 42 per cent of sales in 1993, saw second-half growth rates comparable to the 6 per cent recorded in the first half, in spite of tough markets in Italy and America.

Nadir to seek court ruling

By Colin Narbrough

ASIL NADIR, the fugitive former head of collapsed Polly Peck International, will today seek to have the PPI administrator legally barred from interfering in the running of the company's assets in northern Cyprus.

Gaining control of the northern Cyprus businesses, which include the luxury Jasmine Court Hotel, has proved a big headache for Coopers & Lybrand, the administrator. Mr Nadir, a Turkish-Cypriot, has enjoyed the important backing of Rauf Denktas, the northern Cyprus leader.

Mr Nadir, who jumped bail in 1993 after being charged in England with theft involving £34 million, will today ask a court in Nicosia for a ruling that the PPI administrator has no power to interfere with the administration of PPI subsidiaries in northern Cyprus.

His request to the court is based on the fact that the administrator has not registered its administration order with the local authorities.

But Chris Barlow, of Coopers & Lybrand, said that the administrator's view is that there is no need for such registration.

However, he said that a ruling against Mr Nadir could give fresh impetus to the drive by the administrator to wrest control of local assets from him. The local portfolio has a book value of £50 million.

A dispute over property rights caused the collapse of the northern Cyprus coalition administration last week.

The dispute was prompted by a proposal from Mr Denktas to give the deeds of properties abandoned by Greek Cypriots when the island was partitioned in 1974 to their current occupiers.

He was accused by members of the coalition of seeking to bribe the electorate before forthcoming presidential elections.

Greek Cypriots have long accused Mr Nadir of taking advantage of the Turkish military invasion of Cyprus in 1974 to build up his business empire in the northern half of the island.

The Sunday Times: Buy Power flotation, Bluebird Toys. *The Observer:* Buy Regent Inns, Ashtead Group. *The Independent On Sunday:* Buy Spring Ram, WPP Sell Williams Holdings. *The Sunday Telegraph:* Buy Spargo Consulting, Chemring, Colleagues. *The Mail On Sunday:* Buy Johnson & Firth Brown, European Colour.

Evidence could point to a slowdown in demand

ECONOMIC OUTLOOK

EVEN if this week had not been short on British economic statistics, the attention of the markets would still have been on Wednesday's European debate, called by Labour as a challenge to the Government. Investor nerves were already rattled last Friday and sterling, shares and gilts all slumped.

The Government's troubles come against a background of weakening consumer demand. This week's small list of statistics may provide more evidence of this trend. Today, figures for M0 money supply for February should show a rise of between 0.2 per cent and 0.4 per cent in M0, taking its annual rate of growth near to 6 per cent or even below it. As recently as November, M0 was increasing at 7 per cent annually. Slowing M0 would still tend to back up the view that domestic demand is slowing.

On Wednesday, February's purchasing managers' survey is published, along with the Nationwide's house price index. That is followed on Friday by the Halifax's index. Friday also sees the January figures for personal borrowing, including mortgages and consumer credit. In December, consumer credit was £865 million. The median estimate for January, from MMS International, is £670 million, which makes more sense given the weak retail sales reported.

The other major focus of attention will be US statistics. US markets rallied strongly last week after Alan Greenspan, US Federal Reserve chairman, said that growth was now slowing and that, if it were to slow sufficiently, interest rates could even be lowered, in spite of adverse price pressures. In this context, Wednesday's revisions to American fourth-quarter gross domestic product are important. Preliminary figures put growth at 4.5 per cent and analysts will be looking to see whether that is revised downwards.

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Britain in line to meet Maastricht criteria

By Janet Bush, Economics Correspondent

BRITAIN, Germany and France could meet the debt and deficit criteria laid down in the Maastricht treaty by 1997, but only Luxembourg of the other members of the European Union is likely to make the grade within this timescale, according to the London Business School's latest *Economic Outlook*.

The LBS said that even France, which has pushed hardest of all European countries for economic and monetary union, may fail the test. The LBS forecasts that France's deficit is likely to be 4 per cent of gross domestic product in 1997, the first possible date for stage three of EMU. The Maastricht treaty requires countries to limit their deficits to 3 per cent of GDP.

Italy could see its deficit rise to 12 per cent of GDP from 10 per cent currently, while the LBS said that the Maastricht criteria would have to soften if countries such as Belgium and the Irish Republic were to make the deadline of 1997.

The LBS added that the perceived difficulties of moving smoothly towards EMU mean that the pressure for continuing deficit reduction could fade. It cited the conflict in France between reducing the deficit and cutting unemployment and also the prospect of tax cuts in the next British Budget as the Government attempts to sweeten voters before the next election.

The *Economic Outlook* hints at a vicious cycle as fiscal policy is relaxed in key countries such as the United States, Germany, France and Britain. It said that income tax cuts worth 1 per cent of GDP would lead to a rise in the premium on long-dated interest rates of 1 per cent, "leading to a further erosion of deficits and rising debt levels". It argued that rising long rates "may damage the long run potential of the industrial economies thus requiring a long period of lower growth".

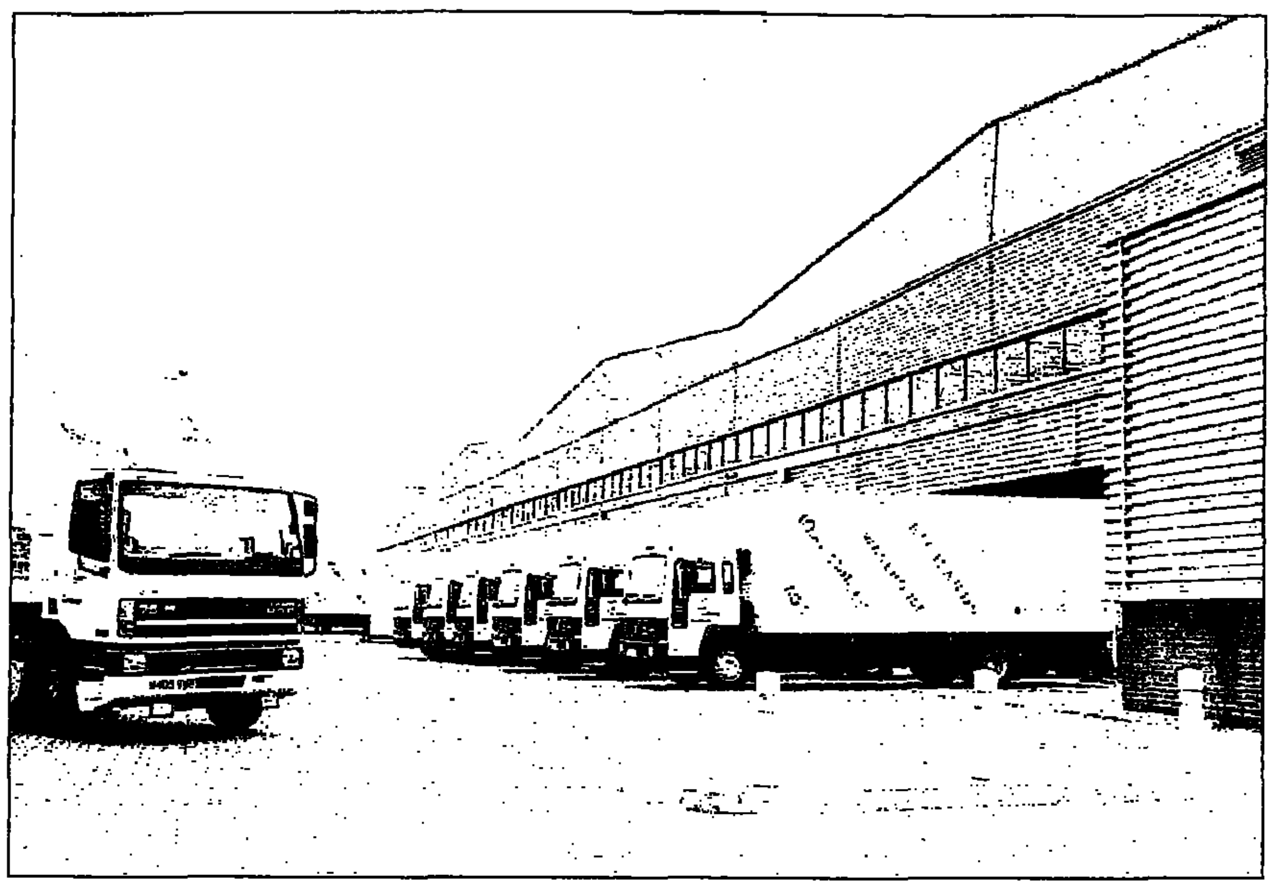
Overall, the LBS is predicting a period of steady growth for the world economy coupled with low inflation. It predicts growth of 3 per cent this year for the Group of Seven industrialised countries on the back of strong growth in world trade, up 9 per cent in 1994 and expected to grow at about 7 per cent a year from now on. Inflation is likely to average only 2.5 per cent in the G7 over the remainder of the decade.

But, apart from the risks posed by high deficits, there is also a concern about the pressures exerted by international financial markets that have seen a damaging ripple effect from the Mexican crisis.

It noted that Latin American economies could be blown off course through problems currently affecting Mexico, that some Asian economies are beginning to run into production capacity problems and that transformation in the economies of central and eastern Europe could falter.

The LBS also argued that the achievement of a "soft landing" in the US is crucial to a favourable outlook. The risk is that growth in the US does not accelerate and that both inflation and interest rates are raised sharply, leading to a sharp slowdown in 1996 and 1997.

The LBS forecasts British growth both this year and next of about 3 per cent and predicted that interest rates will rise to 7 per cent — compared with 6.75 per cent now — and stay at this level next year. Consumption should grow by 1.5 per cent this year, but then probably be boosted by tax cuts to grow by about 2.6 per cent in 1996.



On the road: Tibbett & Britten, long famous for conveying the latest fashions, has won one of the most important contracts in the clothing business. Under a five-year deal that adds £7 million a year turnover, its Fashion Logistics division will handle warehousing and nationwide distribution of sportswear and equipment, footwear, womenswear and jewellery for chains in the Sears group, making 1,800 deliveries a week. T&B is investing £2.6 million in new vehicles, including 15 double-deck trailers and 13 DAF prime movers, and has taken on and trained 255 full-time employees.

UK image of coolness over Europe worries inward investors, says CBI

By Philip Bassett, Industrial Editor

BUSINESS leaders are warning the Government that Britain's ability to attract inward investment is being damaged by the country's image as a "poor European" after recent political disputes over Europe.

Industry leaders hope that John Major will, in the Commons debate on Europe this week, give a clear UK line on Europe — although they are sharply divided over key aspects of European policy.

Leaders of the Confederation of British Industry (CBI) are broadly in line with the Prime Minister and Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, while the Institute of Directors (IoD) is allying itself more closely to the Eurosceptic position of Michael Portillo, the Employment Secretary.

Howard Davies, the CBI Director-General, said that CBI polls and independent polls showed business opinion to be divided over economic and monetary union in Europe, but with what he called a "general bias towards favouring a single currency in the longer term if conditions are right".

However, Tim Melville-Ross, Director-General of the IoD, said that "abandoning our currency could have disastrous consequences" and attacked business leaders who were claiming industry broadly welcomed a single currency.

A new CBI study cautiions that although the UK has a long-established position as the European leader in attracting inward investment, this cannot be taken for granted.

Major greenfield investments are likely to be "sparser" in the future, and, where companies already established in the UK may be looking at a second investment phase, "they may look to spread their facilities across other countries, rather than develop further in the UK".

Accordingly, "UK operations in such cases will have to work hard to justify the continuing relative advantage of the UK".

Although Britain's record, good labour relations, communications and grants are seen by the CBI study as strengths in attracting inward investment, low skill levels, poor infrastructure and an image as a poor European are viewed as weaknesses.

Noting that the UK's continued participation in Europe's single market is of major importance to manufacturing investors, the CBI says that, for companies considering where to locate in Europe, the country's ability to be at the centre of economic and political development in Europe, is of critical importance. It says that this may discourage them from choosing the UK.

The CBI's study shows that US investment in the UK has formed the largest proportion in recent years, at 30 per cent of the total. Though companies such as Sony, Toyota and others have given Japanese inward investment a high profile, the report notes that inward investment from Japan makes up only about 7 per cent of the whole.

Inward investment has led to the creation of 304,000 jobs in the UK from 1980 to 1993.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Sunday 'now second busiest shopping day'

SHOPS that open on Sundays have seen their profits rise, with Sunday now the second busiest shopping day of the week, according to Healey & Baker, the international real estate consultants. Profits are up 3.36 per cent for shops open for Sunday trading. However, the report emphasised that these profits were being won at the expense of shops which have chosen not to open and do not reflect extra spending.

Healey & Baker said that it is primarily large out-of-town shopping centres and London's West End that have taken advantage of the change in the law. Few traditional town centres have opened on Sundays. Those making extra profits are primarily in family-friendly shopping sectors such as clothing, electrical and home furnishings. Grocery stores are not making any extra money by opening on Sundays, according to the report.

3i in small-firm move

3i GROUP, the investment capital group, has set up a special team to finance small high-technology businesses in London. The London Emerging Businesses team plans to invest up to £10 million a year in new companies. The team will search for likely investment candidates in the fast-growing multimedia, information technology and healthcare sectors. The team has already made five investments including £4 million into First Information Group, a multimedia publisher.

Pru seeks one custodian

PRUDENTIAL, Britain's biggest life assurance company, is to out-source its £40 billion custody business to one bank rather than farm it out among the ten major custodian banks tendering for it, as had been expected. The ten include Chase Manhattan, Citibank, Barclays, Midland and the Royal Bank of Scotland. Selection will boost the winner, expected to be announced in April. The Pru said that, with one custodian holding all of its portfolio, it should get the most from services such as investment accounting and performance measurement.

Richbell plans listing

RICHBELL Strategic Holdings, the media and information group, is planning to float on the stock market in the next few months, valued at an estimated £100 million. The move comes after it acquired 49 per cent of Conduit Communications, a database marketing service, and 47.5 per cent of Motor Industry Marketing, a marketing services agency, for a total of £2.96 million. The company is also negotiating to buy 80 per cent of Leading Guides, the publisher of the Egon Ronay guides.

Survey shows caution

EUROPEAN businessmen are cautious about the prospects for economic recovery, according to the latest European Enterprise Index survey from 3i Group. Opinions about the overall economy have worsened slightly since the last survey six months ago, although entrepreneurs are considerably more confident about the prospects for their own business. British business leaders are the most optimistic in Europe about the profit outlook for their companies. Pessimism about the economy is greatest in Germany.

Why airlines give Denver the boot

From Sean Mac Carthaigh
in New York

TWICE the size of Manhattan, the $5 billion Denver International Airport should finally open its doors tomorrow. But even if the baggage system that chewed suitcases in tests has been fixed, the airport is facing dozens of other problems. Among them is an investigation by the Securities & Exchange Commission, and a huge fare rise by airlines who resent paying excessive landing fees.

The airport, with the call-sign DIA, was scheduled to open in October 1993; it was delayed so many times that people now refer to it as DOA, for dead on arrival. It has also run wildly over budget: according to the original calculations, the project should have cost $1.7 billion. The debt increased by $1 million for every day the airport remained closed.

Travellers have seen all the leading airlines, led by United, raise their fares to Denver by $40. Continental, which was expected to use DIA as a hub, will cut its flights there from 200 daily to just 23. Southwest has decided to boycott the airport completely. Residents of Denver, apart from being saddled with the massive debt, point out that the airport is 25 miles from the city centre, and that a round-trip taxi fare will cost $80. The old airport, Stapleton, was just five miles from town.

There are now ten separate inquiries and investigations into the DIA. Two probes by the SEC are examining airport bond deals for potential misleading information and possible solicitation of political favours.

THE TIMES
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A Personal Equity Plan (PEP) is a way of investing money out of the reach of the tax man and *The Times*, in association with TSB Bank, is offering you the chance to win a £6,000 PEP.

Answer the questions which appeared on Saturday and which will reappear on Friday, collect four of the six PEP tokens which are appearing each day, and you could win an investment in your choice of three TSB unit trusts:

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These three funds, which were launched in November 1994, have all ranked in the top quartile of their particular unit trust sectors over the past three months.*

Because of the regulations governing PEPs, winners will receive a holding in the unit trust of their choice. Provided they are eligible, they will be able to convert this to a PEP at no cost either immediately or, if they have already taken out a PEP this year, after the end of the current financial year.

A PEP investment is an excellent home for long-term savings, with all income and capital growth exempt from both income tax and capital gains tax. Readers can obtain full details of TSB PEPs at their nearest TSB Bank branch.

How to enter

Collect four of the six tokens which are appearing this week and send them on a postcard with the answer to Saturday's questions plus the tie-breaker by March 8, 1995 to: *The Times* Win a PEP Competition, Week 2, 16 Whitefriars Street, EC8 2NG. The winner will be selected from all correct entries received by the closing date.

* Source: Micropal offer-to-offer, income not reinvested.

THE TIMES
Second week
PEP
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	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.26	2.09
Austria Sch	17.44	15.94
Belgium Fr	51.07	46.77
Canada $	2.321	2.161
Cyprus Cyp£ .	0.769	0.714
Denmark Kr ...	9.85	9.05
Finland Mkk ...	7.76	7.11
France Fr	8.62	7.97
Germany Dm .	2.49	2.28
Greece Dr	391.00	366.00
Hong Kong $	12.93	11.93
Ireland Pt	1.05	0.97
Israel	5.2565	4.5065
Italy Lira	2685.00	2530.00
Japan Yen	168.00	152.00
Malta	0.611	0.556
Netherlds Gld	2.770	2.540
Norway Kr	10.88	10.08
Portugal Esc ..	253.50	235.00
S Africa Rd	ref.	5.50
Spain Pta	212.50	198.50
Sweden Kr	12.16	11.36
Switzerland Fr	2.12	1.94
Turkey Lira	refer	63687.0
USA $	1.688	1.558

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading on Friday.

CHANGE ON WEEK

THE POUND

US dollar
1.5805 (+0.0040)
German mark
2.3308 (-0.0158)
Exchange index
87.1 (Same)
Bank of England official close (4pm)

STOCK MARKET

FT 30 share
2305.3 (-9.7)
FT-SE 100
3037.7 (-6.5)
New York Dow Jones
4011.74 (+58.20)
Tokyo Nikkei Avge
17472.94 (-547.57)

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page 30

INGRAVESCENT

(b) Growing worse. A medical term relating to the course of a disease, but the wider figurative potential is obvious. "Now that he has been appointed editor, we can expect him to be ingravescent, I fear."

PROSOPOGRAPHY

(a) The total description of a person — his or her appearance, personality, social status, family connections, employment history, etc., the ultimate cv. In Roman history, particularly, practised by Ronald Syme, the study of politics by the biographies of the politicians. "Candidates are asked to submit three copies of their prosopography."

CICURATE

(c) To tame, civilise or reclaim from a natural state of wildness. "Morag, I'm not having that young man of yours in the house again until he has been thoroughly cicurated."

OPISTHENAR

(c) The back of the hand. In pronunciation the stress is on the *pis*. So you can alarm the household by shouting from the bathroom at 6.30 in the morning, when they are just starting to wake up: "Mother, I've got a nasty little red spot on my opisthenar."

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Lesson of history behind City's ring of confidence

To crash once may be regarded as a misfortune, to crash twice in little more than a century looks like carelessness. In the Barings crisis, however, history is a comforting friend. The most important message to the world this morning is the same as on that Monday morning in November 1890: London stands behind Barings. Its signature will be honoured, its trading commitments will be met and its contracts will be delivered. Only its capital, and the income of the charity that owns it, are at risk. Every dealer or treasurer in every market on every continent should understand that clearly.

This assurance will not stop nerves jangling in some financial markets. But it should still fear of markets collapsing, of Barings' difficulties having knock-on effects on other market participants or of a domino effect on confidence.

That is why London has to stand behind Barings. In 1890, a bank that helped to finance the Napoleonic wars still had something of the cachet of "the sixth great power". It was a prime player in the trade bill market on which the City's international reputation and earning power depended. The Bank of England matured into its modern City role by orchestrating other banks to provide cash to cover the losses and, in the process, the Barings ceded primacy to the Rothschilds.

Barings is no longer big enough to need saving in its own right. But maintaining its credit is still vital, to retain confidence in the diverse markets in which it operates, from the interbank market to equities in emerging countries. If Barings did not meet its commitments, the standing of many other firms of like size and scope would be undermined. The money supply would shrink and market interest rates rise. Only fools would carp at the Bank of England's intervention.

As in 1890, when a similar sum was at stake in the money of the time, those supplying liquidity will have asked whether Barings is a viable long-term business. Although the final extent of losses was not certain, the answer would plainly have been yes. The market value of the group's asset management business should alone cover it, without its previously highly profitable investment bank. There would be no shortage of buyers for these businesses, even if Barings' long independent life is stilled.

As in 1890 again, the source of the disaster that hit Barings lay in chasing highly profitable but risky opportunities in distant parts. But there the comparison ends. In 1890, when Barings was hit by defaults in Argentine company promotions, the crisis built up over weeks. In 1995, the storm came from clear blue sky. Only a week ago, the Sunday newspaper that first broke the story yesterday wrote of fat bonuses that Baring employees were expecting on the back of record 1994 profits.

There is a more important difference. The first crash stemmed directly from decisions taken and risks assumed by Baring partners. The huge hole found in Barings' finances on Thursday appears to have been blown by one senior trader, operating in an obscure office, making unauthorised transactions. That is the power of derivatives. The amounts that can be traded are so vast, relative to the underlying assets they represent, that potential losses are crippling unless care is taken to cover positions, or to match them to assets and income flows. A generation ago, unauthorised speculation in cocoa futures did terrible damage to Rowntrees and Lloyds Bank had to pay for the peccadillos of a maverick currency trader in Lugano. In the 1990s, nasty losses have multiplied.

In Barings' case, the extra dimension is one of relative scale: the huge risks taken, compared to the size of its capital or liquid assets. This should not have happened. Banks are professional traders wholly aware of the risks they take and the need to control them. Central bankers have endlessly impressed that on them, precisely because bank failures caused by derivatives trading could wreck the financial system.

Losses that engulf companies were waiting to happen. As derivatives experts acknowledge, the boards of many big companies, or leaders of local authorities such as California's Orange County, do not understand what their treasury departments are doing. Directors believe their traders are just hedging risks when they are actually engaged in speculation.

Once they have got over the shock, every bank or company that trades in derivatives or complex investment should ask itself whether what has happened to Barings could happen to it. In many cases the answer will be yes. In even more cases, boards will simply not know. Many big banks have net exposures equal to or greater than their capital. But they believe that they monitor all trading continuously and check their net exposure daily. They need to ask if their systems are really proof against mavericks.

In America, political demands for rigid controls on derivative trading have faded, quite simply because the markets move so fast that controls would either be ineffective or stifle innovation. That is a sensible lesson for those in Britain inclined to rush to judgment.

The underlying problem is that the growth of complex markets has outrun the number of people qualified to use them. This is compounded by a generation gap of expertise. Wiseheads in control do not fully understand what their bright young dealers are doing. Perhaps the second Baring crisis will teach banks, regulators and companies a lesson. Derivatives, though vital to industry, are the financial equivalent of nuclear engineering. If directors and staff are not trained and if fail-safe control systems do not have layers of back-up, you should not be in the business.

Patricia Tehan looks into the crisis at Baring Brothers

The rise and fall of Barings

Baring Brothers' future as an independent bank ended after 233 years at the weekend, not with an agreed takeover as stock market rumour has had it for the past few months, but with an emergency rescue operation co-ordinated by the Bank of England.

The Bank was called in on Friday after Barings was plunged into crisis by losses estimated at £400 million or more, incurred by one of its traders. Nick Leeson in the Singapore office incurred the losses on the Nikkei-225 futures contract, which is traded on SIMEX in Singapore and in Osaka. The derivatives contracts are linked to the movement of the Japanese stock market and the problem is understood to involved 15,000 to 20,000 contracts worth almost $200,000 each.

The Bank had only the weekend to organise a rescue. There were fears that had Barings been unable to meet its obligations in Asia, it could have sparked a major banking crisis, with repercussions on regional and international financial markets.

This is the second time that Barings has been the subject of a bailout by the Bank. The last time was in 1890 when Barings was stuck with a bad South American exposure and the family was virtually ruined. This time, the family will certainly lose control — and for a much lower price than they could have negotiated at the beginning of last week.

The question now is whether Barings will be taken over as a whole, or auctioned off in separate businesses. The Bank of England approached all the leading banks in Europe and some US investment banks over the weekend to assess their interest.

Unlike most of its peers, Barings resisted takeover fever during the Big Bang in 1986. As rivals set their sights on building up integrated investment banking activities and competing with their bigger Wall Street rivals, Barings looked to its strength in domestic corporate advisory work and to emerging markets. It decided to concentrate its capital on Japan, emerging markets in the fast-growing Asian economies, and Latin America.

The most obvious fit would appear to be with National Westminster Bank, or ABN Amro, the Dutch banking group that owns Hoare Govett, the London-based securities business. HSBC Holdings, the parent of Midland Bank, and Morgan Stanley, the US investment bank, were also mentioned as possibilities yesterday, although Barings would not be a clear fit with the strategies of either.

NatWest has been attempting to build a presence in international corporate finance where Barings is strong and sees asset management as a current weakness.

The mood at Barings yesterday was a far cry from that in October

Among Baring's core businesses is its role as an agency stockbroker and trader of emerging markets securities with offices in 23 countries. It has a strong corporate finance business and is currently advising Lloyds Bank on its proposed acquisition of Cheltenham & Gloucester Building Society and Wellcome on its defence against Glaxo's £9.2 billion offer.

It has a middle-ranking asset management business, with funds under management of £31.5 billion as of the last chairman's statement, earning 1993 trading profits of £32 million.

Another attraction is its 40 per cent stake in Dillon Read, the US investment bank. Dillon Read produced lower profits in the first half, but Barings noted that the performance was significantly better than many of its counterparts on Wall Street.

Last week, Martin Owen, chief executive of NatWest Markets, NatWest's investment banking arm, said that he would not rule out an acquisition in order to expand the bank's business in corporate finance and funds management.

He said that such an acquisition would have to make sense from a shareholder value point of view and the cultural fit woud have to be right. It would have to fill in a skills gap for NatWest Markets and it would have to be "unthreatening" for the bank.

ABN Amro is the fifth biggest European bank and sixteenth largest in the world. Its domestic business is in retail and investment banking. Elsewhere in the world, the bank targets specific products at customer groups, particularly large corporations and multinationals in corporate finance, securities, treasury products and facilities, trade and commodity finance, leasing and private banking.

It bought Hoare Govett in 1992 and also has a private banking operation, a market-making and European government bond sales operation, a leasing operation and a factoring arm in the United Kingdom.

Whenever takeover rumours abound in the merchant banking sector, ABN Amro is one of the main names in the frame.

Although HSBC does have a weakness in international corporate finance and is in the middle of building up its asset management business, it is understood not to be interested in an acquisition, prefering to build up strength through James Capel and Samuel Montagu, its securities and merchant banking arms. Given Barings' strength in the Far East, there would be obvious areas of overlap.

Morgan Stanley is believed to have been approached, but was not interested in taking over Barings, which was due to unveil profit figures for 1994 in two weeks' time.

Yesterday, the mood at Barings was a far cry from its confident stance last October when it reversed the trend among UK merchant banks with a 54 per cent rise in interim profits to £54.8 million. At the time, Peter Baring, the chairman, said that the bank had managed to avoid markets where losses had been made recently. "I think we chose the right things to do and avoided the wrong things," he said.

Following the strong halfway performance and confident stance taken by the bank, City analysts had been expecting full-year profits ahead of 1993's £100 million. Its interim profits were helped by a strong performance in corporate finance. Income from fees and commissions rose 47 per cent to £238.8 million.

In spite of turbulent market conditions, Barings said its money market and fixed-income businesses had coped well. Other banks had reported a fall in net dealing income, but at Barings it grew 16 per cent to £63.6 million.

Where other banks suffered from poor market conditions in the US and Western Europe, Barings suffered less because its main securities broking operation is in Asia, where a third of its employees are based.

The bank had only a limited involvement in the bond markets that have been the downfall of other banks.

Surviving in the riskiest bond market

Gilts have not provided exceptional returns over the past five years compared with other bond markets. They have been the riskiest government bond market.

Here we are measuring risk by the standard deviation of monthly total returns. Gilts have provided the most volatile returns since 1990. This volatility has been 85 per cent more than the US, 90 per cent more than Germany and 31 per cent greater than Italy even. This higher-risk profile for UK bonds was not seen in equivalent equity market comparisons.

Three factors explain most of this volatility. The first was the economic growth cycle. The UK had one of the most volatile economic cycles during this period. The negative growth rates in the recession years of 1991 and 1992 were greater than in any other major economy. Last year's 4 per cent growth rate was among the OECD's highest. That may not be much of a boom given our experience of boom-bust cycles but relative to other economies it was significantly different. The domestic growth cycle is more relevant to gilts than equities since nearly half of corporate earnings reflect economic conditions outside the UK.

The second factor related to changes in fiscal policy. Stripping out the cyclical element of the budget deficit to reveal the underlying or structural position shows that UK policy has shifted from very stimulative to moderately restrictive.

Indeed, taking the underlying fiscal position and changes in short-term interest rates together, the UK had in 1993 the most stimulative combination of policies since the Heath-Barber dash for growth in the early 1970s. In 1994 and continuing into this year, fiscal policies were tightened and interest rates rose.

The degree of policy turnaround was dramatic both by our past standards and by comparison with the experience of other countries.

The final factor is a toss-up between the exchange rate and changes in net capital flows. They are not unrelated, of course, but since we are attempting to explain the greater volatility of the gilt market alone, the portfolio flow evidence seems more relevant. Although overseas investor participation in the UK gilt market is relatively low, it has been extraordinarily volatile.

Between 1990 and 1991 the turnaround in net purchases of gilts by overseas investors was nearly $18.5bn, which represents the difference between a net outflow of $86bn in 1990 and a net inflow of $10.5bn a year later. The comparable turnaround figures for the larger markets of US Treasuries and German bunds were $2bn and $17.5bn respectively. Net UK inflows halved in 1992 before rising by $17bn in 1993 to $21n. Last year they fell back to less than $2bn.

This high volatility is shared by many other European markets but together with the other two factors it has contributed to a level of risk well above the international average.

What lessons does this hold?

It seems unlikely that future policy changes will be so extreme. The tightening of monetary policy is a genuine attempt to pre-empt inflationary pressures building up while risks with fiscal policy seem unlikely, given the Treasury's determination to reduce debt-GDP ratios.

Pre-election bribes are a risk, but economic circumstances which allow the Bank of England to sanction interest rates reductions may be a more reassuring sign that policy is back on course. However, surprises in the pattern of economic growth could still contribute significantly to gilt return volatility.

The signs are that the relative risk characteristics of gilts should improve over the next two years. Relative returns may again prove to be unexceptional but changes to the risk profile would facilitate a better risk/return profile.

MICHAEL HUGHES
Barclays de Zoete Wedd

THE TIMES

CITY DIARY

◆

Fun with your own business

SIR John Harvey-Jones, who no longer lists "driving donkeys" as one of his recreations in *Who's Who*, may well wonder why he ever bothered to work so hard all his life to become head of ICI, when with less struggle, and probably twice as much fun, he could have reached the top of the business pile in any case. Tonight, Sir John opens the 1995 *Country Living* Fair at the Business Design Centre, Islington Green, where earlier in the day the *Country Living*/Calor Gas Small Rural Business Awards will have been handed out, in recognition of Britain's most original and successful small businesses. The winner collects £6,000, the runner-up £3,000, and there is £1,000 each for three third prize winners. Entries include Joseph Scullion from Ballymena, County Antrim, who runs Scullion Hurls, which manufactures hurling sticks from ash, as well as baseball bats, cricket stumps and shafts for spades and pickaxes; Lesley and Nicholas Tracey-Williams, from Hinxworth, Hertfordshire, who rear pigs "outdoors in a stress-free environment", and would spend the prize money on raising free-range turkeys; Linda Bailey and Linda Jones, from Barmouth, Gwynedd, who run Sheepscan Merion, "an ultrasound pregnancy scanning service for sheep" and would use the money to "take an intensive language course in conversational Welsh"; Tim Wade from Builth Wells, Powys, who teaches traditional woodland skills and crafts, including "chair-bodging", and Aubrey and Darrell Hill, from Bridgwater, Somerset, who make hand-woven willow products and whose latest order from The Queen was for a dog basket. You see, it can be fun running your own business.

Crossing the Pond

CAROLYN Moses, of Lehman Brothers, is a clever and well travelled woman. She was born in Brisbane, Australia, has been in London since 1986 and has previously worked for Mitsubishi Finance, County NatWest, and Deutsche Bank. She joined Lehmans in 1988, and in 1990 was made head of European equity research. Now, she is promoted to Wall Street as head of Lehman global equity research, in charge of 100 analysts, strategists and economists covering 50 industry sectors. For her, corporate life has been so busy that "my first five-year passport ran out within two years." Carolyn crosses the Pond in April.

COLLECTIVE nouns continue to flood in. An edifice of newspaper editors; an exposé of financial journalists; a myth of City pundits; a barge of takeover panelists; and (ouch!) ... an inconsequence of column writers.

COLIN CAMPBELL

Chips with everything

World Service Guide to the Information Superhighway. *World Service, 10.00am.*

With its international reach, Bush House has predictably come up with what is unarguably radio's first worldwide survey of the silicon chip revolution. Part one of Nic Newman's series puts a wide range of technological wonders into its shop window. Is the series going to make sense to computer thickheads like me? Miracle of miracles, I was unstunned at programme's end. I would not argue, however, with what a BT expert says this morning about the rate of technological progress being more a people problem than a technical one. But should I share the cosmic blame and shame for the human race being "the No 1 delay mechanism"?

The Newgate Calendar: The Life, Crimes and Death of Jonathan Wild. *Radio 4, 2.00pm.*

The book-form calendar of London's infamous prison in the 18th century proclaimed its aim as "not one whit inspired by any salacious fascination with the depravity of malfactors". Two centuries later, that fascination has got the better of Radio 4. This series of plays begins, boisterously, with Jonathan Wild, the self-styled "Thief-taker General". From trafficker in prostitution, he progressed to regulator of London crime. Criminals and justices alike were grist to his mill. He was the Al Capone of his day, and John Rowe reanimates him in Christopher Denys's play.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo. 4.00am Bruno Brookes 6.30 Steve Wright 9.00 Simon Mayo 12.00 Lisa I'Anson, incl at 12.30-12.45pm Newsbeat and at 1.15 The Net 2.00 Nicky Campbell 4.00 Mark Goodier, incl at 5.30-5.45 Newsbeat 7.00 Evening Session, 9.00 Alan Parker 10.00 Stuart Maconie Midnight Lynn Parsons

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. 6.00am Sarah Kennedy 6.15 Pause for Thought 7.30 Wake Up to Wogan 9.15 Pause for Thought 9.30 Ken Bruce 11.30 Jimmy Young 2.00pm Gloria Hunniford 3.30 Ed Stewart 5.05 Martin Kelner 7.00 Hubert Gregg 7.30 Dance Band Days, and at 8.00 Big Band Era 8.30 Big Band Special, with Barry Forgie, with special guest Australian multi-instrumentalist James Morrison 9.00 Humphrey Lyttelton 10.00 Adventures in Jazz, with special guest Suzanne Bonner 10.30 The Jamesons 12.05am Digby Fairweather 1.00 Steve Madden 3.00-6.00 Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, including at 5.45 Wake Up to Money 6.00 The Breakfast Programme 8.35 The Magazine, incl at 10.35 Euronews; 11.00 Actuality 12.00 Midday with Mair, incl at 12.34pm Moneycheck 2.05 Ruscoe on Five 4.00 John Inverdale Nationwide 7.00 News Extra, incl at 7.20 sport 7.35 Voices of the Old Firm 8.05 Welsh Football Forum 10.05 News Talk 11.00 Night Extra, incl 11.45 The Financial World Tonight 12.05am The Other Side of Midnight 2.05 Up All Night

TALK RADIO

6.00am Maurice Dee and Carol McGiffin 10.00 Scott Chisholm 1.00pm Anna Raeburn 3.00 Tommy Boyd 7.00 Samantha Meah and Sean Bolger 10.00 Caesar the Geezer 1.00am Wild Al Kelly

WORLD SERVICE

All times in GMT. 4.30am BBC English 4.45 Fruhmagazin 5.00 Newshour 6.00 Morgenmagazin 6.30 Europe Today 7.00 News 7.15 Manon Des Sources 7.30 About Face 8.00 News 8.10 Faith 8.15 Health 8.30 Anything Goes 9.00 News 9.05 Business Report 9.15 Replace a Disc 9.30 Learning World 9.45 Sport 10.00 News 10.01 Guide to the Information Superhighway: See Choice 10.30 Vintage Chart Show 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 BBC English 11.45 Mittagsmagazin 12.00 News 12.10pm Faith 12.15 My Music 12.45 Sport 1.00 News 2.05 Outlook 2.30 Manon Des Sources 2.45 Early Versions 3.00 News 3.15 Them and Us 4.00 News 4.15 BBC English 4.30 Heute Aktuell 5.00 News 5.05 Business Report 5.15 BBC English 6.00 Newsdesk 6.30 Heute Aktuell 7.00 News 7.05 Outlook 7.30 Essential Qur'an 7.45 Health 8.00 News 8.10 Words of Faith 8.15 World Today 8.30 Europe Today 9.00 News 10.05 Business 10.15 Meridian 10.45 Sport 11.00 Newsdesk 11.30 Multitrack: Hit List 12.00 News 12.15am A Jolly Good Show 1.00 News 1.05 Outlook 1.30 Folk Routes 1.45 Health 2.00 Newsdesk 2.30 My Music 3.00 News 3.15 Sport 3.30 John Peel 4.00 Newsdesk

CLASSIC FM

6.00am Nick Bailey 9.00 Henry Kelly 12.00 Susannah Simons 2.00pm Lunchtime Concerto: Barber (Violin Concerto) 3.00 Jamie Crick 6.00 Classic Reports 7.00 The LSO 8.00 Evening Concert: Tippett (Visions of Paradise); Mozart (Concerto in E flat, K365); Tippett (Child of Our Time) 10.00 Michael Mappin 1.00am André Leon

VIRGIN 1215

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono 9.00 Richard Skinner 12.00 Graham Dene 4.00pm Wendy Lloyd 7.00 Paul Coyte 11.00 Nick Abbot 2.00-6.00am J.L. Grace

RADIO 3

6.30am **Open University:** *Culture and Belief in Europe — Mystery Plays* 6.55 Weather
7.00 **On Air**, with Andrew McGregor. Delius (On hearing the first cuckoo in spring); Boccherini (Sinfonia in F, Op 35 No 4); *Songbook Series*: Wolf (Italienisches Liederbuch Nos 17-20); Weber (Overture, Der Freischutz); Martinu (Sextet); Ravel (Daphnis et Chloé, Suite No 2)
9.00 **Composers of the Week:** Wales since the War, presented by Geraint Lewis
10.00 **Musical Encounters:** Verdi (Gli arredi festivi, Nabucco); Glinka (Capriccio brillante); *Artist of the Week*: Della Jones, mezzo; Duparc (Extase; L'invitation au voyage; La vie antérieure); Mendelssohn (Violin Concerto in E minor); Mozart (Non piu di fiori, La Clemenza di Tito); Fauré (Nocturne No 7 in C sharp minor, Op 74); Arnold (Symphony No 3); Haydn (Ho promesso oprar destrezza, L'incontro improviso)
12.00 **Britannia at the Opera:** Hamish MacCunn's *Jeannie Deans*. Scottish Opera Chorus, BBC Scottish SO under Martyn Brabbins
1.00pm **BBC Lunchtime Concert**, live from St John's, Smith Square. Steven Isserlis, cello, and Paul Coker, piano, perform Brahms (Cello Sonata in E minor, Op 38); Schumann, arr Isserlis (Violin Sonata in A minor)
2.00 **Schools**
3.00 **The BBC Orchestras:** BBC Scottish SO under Janos Furst. Schumann (r)
3.45 **Alan Cuckston**, organ, performs Gibbons (Pavan in G minor, Galliard in D minor); Purcell (Voluntary in A, on the Old 100th); Correa de Arauxo (Tiento de medio registro); Handel (Overture, Semele); Howells (Dalby's Fancy); Wesley (Melody in C sharp minor, Andante in D, Vivace in E flat, Fantasy in F)
4.30 **Onter's Blues:** Clyde Causey and Emmanuel Dunn
5.00 **The Music Machine:** Tommy Pearson looks at the changes that have taken place in string technique since 1830
5.15 **In Tune**, with Andrew Green
7.30 **Tippett: Visions of Paradise:** Anthony Burton presents the final concert to mark Sir Michael Tippett's 90th birthday. Faye Robinson, soprano, Maria Popescu, mezzo, London Symphony Chorus and Orchestra, under Colin Davis perform *The Mask of Time* by Tippett
9.30 **What I Remember:** Lee Montague reads from the unpublished autobiography of a Polish Jewish doctor who drove east in August 1939 to escape the Germans (1/4)
9.50 **New Waves.** Louise Hopkins, cello, and Carole Presland, piano, perform Janăcék (Pohadka); Burrell (Heron); Lutoslawski (Sacher variation for solo cello); Martinu (Cello Sonata No 1)
10.45 **Mixing It**, with Robert Sandall and Mark Russell
11.30-12.30am **Music Restored:** *The Song of Angels. The final concert of vocal music from pre-Reformation England*
1.00-2.00 **Night School:** Triple Bil 1.30 GNVQ — Action Planning 2.00 French 16+

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast 6.00 News Briefing 6.10 Farming Today 6.25 Prayer for the Day with Neelam Bakshi 6.30 Today, including 7.00, 7.30, 8.00, 8.30 News 7.25, 8.25 Sports News 7.45 Thought for the Day, with Bill Westwood 8.40 History File: Stuart Simon looks back over nearly 20 years of *File on 4* (2/6) 8.58 Weather
9.00 **News 9.05 Start the Week:** Conversation with Melvyn Bragg and guests
10.00-10.30 **News; Wordly Wise** (FM only): Peter Hobday's guests are Tony Augarde, Barry Cryer, Germaine Greer and Richard Stilgoe
10.00 **Daily Service** (LW only), from Denbigh
10.15 **Something Understood: Where We Dance, Where We Play** (LW only), read by Geraldine Alexander, Alphonsia Emmanuel and Don Warrington (r)
10.30 **Woman's Hour**, introduced by Jenni Murray. Harriet Walter reads part 15 of George Gissing's classic *The Odd Women*
11.30 **Money Box Live:** 0171-580 4444
12.00 **News; You and Yours**, with Daire Brehan
12.25pm **Counterpoint:** Ned Sherrin presents heat nine of the music quiz 12.55 Weather
1.00 **The World at One**, with Nick Clarke
1.40 **The Archers** (r) 1.55 Shipping Forecast
2.00 **News; The Newgate Calendar: The Life, Crimes and Death of Jonathan Wild**, by Christopher Denys. See Choice
3.00 **The Afternoon Shift**, with Laurie Taylor
4.00 **News 4.05 Kaleidoscope:** Robert Dawson Scott looks at the life and work of Henry Purcell
4.45 **Short Story: Call Girl.** David Horovitch reads Russell Hoban's story about a singer's strange charms on the members of a company
5.00 **PM**, with Chris Lowe and Linda Lewis 5.50 Shipping Forecast 5.55 Weather
6.00 **Six O'Clock News**
6.30 **Just a Minute** (r)
7.00 **News 7.05 The Archers**
7.20 **The Food Programme** (r)
7.45 **The Monday Play: Lost Parts**, by Elizabeth Baines. An English family struggle to come to terms with Father's death. With Ellie Haddington. 9.00 **Dr Burney's Travels:** The European tour undertaken by Charles Burney (r)
9.30 **Kaleidoscope** (r) 9.59 Weather
10.00 **The World Tonight**
10.45 **Book at Bedtime: Happy Sad Land.** Read by Richard E. Grant (8/7)
11.00-11.30 **Eurotalk** (FM only): Professor Sir Roy Calne discusses his pioneering work on liver transplants (r)
11.00-11.30 **Education Matters** (LW only)
11.30-12.00 **The Vacillations of Poppy Carew** (FM only), by Mary Wesley. With Beatie Edney (2/6) (r)
11.30 **Today in Parliament** (LW only)
12.00-12.43am **News** incl 12.27 Weather 12.33 Shipping 12.43 As World Service (LW only)

RADIO 1: FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2:** FM-88-90.2. **RADIO 3:** FM-90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4:** 198kHz/1515m; FM-92.4-94.6; LW: 198. **RADIO 5:** 693kHz/433m; 909kHz/330m. **LONDON RADIO:** 1152kHz/261m; FM 97.3. **CAPITAL:** 1548kHz/194m; FM-95.8. **GLR:** FM 94.9; **WORLD SERVICE:** MW 648kHz/463m. **CLASSIC FM:** FM-100-102. **VIRGIN:** MW-1215, 1197, 1242 kHz. **TALK RADIO:** MW 1089, 1053kHz. Listings compiled by Peter Dear and Linda Galloway

[illegible]

Superwoman, supertrain and Clark Kent

REVIEW

Lynne Truss

For the intellectual purist, television can be confusing when the form and content of a programme refuse to match. For example, when Friday's *Operavox* (BBC2) stages a huge tragedy such as *Rigoletto* by means of a ghoulish half-hour animation, something in the brain must stretch a little to accommodate it. Then, when the respectable highbrow *Bookmark* (BBC2) gives a full hour to the success story of *Thomas the Tank Engine*, the brain creaks with the effort. And finally, when the big guns of Andrew Neil's **Is This Your Life?** (Channel 4) are trained on the world's least offensive person, Olivia Newton-John, the brain finally draws the line, goes on strike, and shuts down until further notice.

To my shame, I had missed the previous instalments of *Is This Your Life?*, in which guests such as Fatima Whitbread, Jimmy Savile and Max Clifford were famously discomfited by skeletons being yanked out of cupboards. So when Saturday's programme got under way, with Olivia Newton-John smiling expectantly like Bambi, and Neil smiling and laughing by return ("Now, ha ha, we spoke to your old boyfriend . . ."), the effect was horrible. "Don't trust him, Livvy!" I yelled. "Any minute now, he will tell the world you were a coke fiend!" Neil even built her up with an exaggerated introduction, calling her "one of the most popular female performers in the world". The ghastly dismantling process would evidently be starting pretty soon.

But it never happened. I was relieved for Ms Newton-John, of course, but otherwise mad as hell. This programme was *stupid*. As a succession of witnesses vouched for her as the nicest and most beautiful girl-next-door they'd ever known, it became clear that this jumped-up trial by television had picked entirely the wrong patsy. It emerged that Olivia Newton-John's most shameless moment was kissing John Travolta in *Grease*, and not telling anyone how yummy it was. She had made an appearance in Raymond's Revue Bar, but only by mistake. She once sang a dirty song in Australia. Listen, I've got more ammunition against my *cat* than Andrew Neil had against this particular guest. Yet there he sat, doing his tough, knowing, grizzled heavyweight journalist bit (with clipboard), as if at any moment he'd bring the walls down.

As for **Bookmark**, a similar problem applied. Nobody minds that arts programmes address high and low art in the same terms, so long as they tell you what the fuss is about. What made Saturday's film about *Thomas the Tank Engine* a slightly sad chuff-chuff through flat landscape was that the appeal of the original stories was pretty elusive to non-initiates. The books were seen primarily as artefacts, not as products of the imagination. Are the Railway Stories by the Rev Wilbert Awdry *good* ? How do they relate to Ivor the Engine? Bring in Tom Paulin, please, and let's hear some serious literary assessment.

Bookmark featured snippets from the original stories read aloud by Sir John Gielgud (presumably to make parents feel inadequate), but otherwise got up steam with a chronicle of the television success of Thomas, plus the merchandising and foreign sales (Thomas is very big in Japan). *Bookmark* took us to archives, to publishers' meetings, to Japan, and to television studios, where trains with faces puffed up and down on a cheap lay-out. I wanted to know about the money, but *Bookmark* was too polite to ask. Thomas is a very hot property, yet the Awdry family were clearly not living it up, and no one has noticed Thomas getting diamond wheel-trims, either.

Mr Awdry's reactions to the television series were mostly unfavourable. He disapproved of the cult of Thomas, and was appalled that the producers had "crane-shunted" Thomas into stories where he didn't belong. Also, when the producers started to write their own stories, they showed disregard for railway practice. An engine called Henry stopped for a breather in a forest. "What responsible driver would stop as if he was in a roadside lay-by?" demanded Awdry. "This shows a lamentable ignorance of Rule 55."

Back in the real world (as it were), **The New Adventures of Superman** (BBCl) returned on Saturday with a new villain, Lex Luthor's ex-wife. This dastardly woman, in the guise of an eminent psychoanalyst, held the city in thrall by sending coded messages through her column in *The Daily Planet*. Somehow she had whipped up the populace to a hatred of Superman. Twenty per cent of Metropolites were against our hero, although oddly they couldn't explain why. "This is the dumbing-down of America," announced Lois, when she heard the news. "They have an opinion but they don't know why they have it."

It was a pretty sophisticated story by the standards of 6.15 on a Saturday evening. The shrink disempowered Lois by diagnosing Post Traumatic Stress Disorder — the lay person's equivalent of chains and kryptonite! Of course, if Metropolis threw out Superman, he could always be a guest on *Is This Your Life?*, but in the meantime, how did the fiendish Mrs Luthor send her messages to the populace? Luckily Clark Kent sussed her sophisticated ploy. She was using *acrostics*: every section of her column being headed by a big capital letter, she arranged them to spell messages across the page, such as "Superman must die" and "You are so easily manipulated". It couldn't work, could it? No, of course not. It wouldn't even be worth a try.

BBC1

6.00 Business Breakfast (68195)

7.00 Breakfast News (62258756)

9.05 Kilroy (s) (9776447)

10.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (7779756) **10.05 EastEnders — The Early Days** (r) (Ceefax) (2707447)

10.35 Good Morning with Anne and Nick. Weekday magazine (s) (4951282)

12.00 News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (1654282) **12.05 Pebble Mill** (s) (2880824) **12.55 Regional News** and weather (75962114)

1.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (14701) **1.30 Neighbours**. (Ceefax) (s) (82780263)

1.50 NEW **Going for Gold**. The debonair Henry Kelly returns with another series of the popular general knowledge quiz featuring 96 contestants from 26 countries competing for a North American holiday of a lifetime (s) (82791379)

2.15 Knots Landing. American drama series (s) (2144534) **3.05 Today's Gourmet** (4810992)

3.30 Cartoon (9117350) **3.45 Bodger and Badger**. Live action and puppets series (s) (9112805) **4.00 Jackanory**. Bill Paterson reads *The Last of the Dinosaurs*, the first of a series of five stories by Ted Hughes (s) (4092379) **4.10 The Legend of Prince Valiant**. (Ceefax) (s) (7088963) **4.35 Tomorrow's End** (r) (Ceefax) (5273621) **5.00 Newsround** (7927176) **5.10 Blue Peter**. (Ceefax) (s) (9360756)

5.35 Neighbours (r). (Ceefax) (s) (899701)

6.00 News (Ceefax) and weather (756)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (468)

7.00 Champion Telly Addicts. The champion of champions final, between the Browns and the Rossiters (s) (7027)

7.30 Watchdog. (Ceefax) (s) (992)

Gillian Taylforth and Steve McFadden (8.00pm)

8.00 EastEnders. Kathy (Gillian Taylforth) and Phil (Steve McFadden) plan their reunion. (Ceefax) (s) (3447)

8.30 Goodnight Sweetheart. Comedy series starring Nicholas Lyndhurst. (Ceefax) (s) (5282)

9.00 Nine O'Clock News (Ceefax), regional news and weather (6992)

9.30 Panorama: The Killing Screens. A report examining the relationship between on-screen and real-life violence. (Ceefax) (801176)

10.10 Natural Lies. The second of the three-part thriller about a man obsessed with trying to find the reasons behind his former lover's suicide (r) (Ceefax) (s) (178485). **Wales:** A Parent's Guide (264718) 10.25 Asylum (901602) 10.55 Natural Lies (132718) 11.50 Film 95 (642008) 12.20am-1.45 Film: Amazon Women on the Moon (5290022)

11.05 Film 95 with Barry Norman. Among the films reviewed are *Pret-a-Porter* and *Wagons East* (Ceefax) (s) (671350)

11.35 FILM: Amazon Women on the Moon (1987) starring Rosanna Arquette and Ralph Bellamy. A series of comic skits directed by Joe Dante, Carl Gottlieb, Peter Horton, John Landis and Robert K. Weiss (839027) **1.00am Weather** (4587225)

BBC2

6.20 Open University: Systems — Coping with Queues (7234114) **6.45** Using Television (5724911) **7.35** Child Development. Simple Beginnings? (2413244)

8.00 Breakfast News (Ceefax and signing) (7178008)

8.15 Westminster On-Line with Sarah Baxter (s) (4761008)

9.00 Daytime on Two. Educational programmes. Plus, for children, **10.00-10.25** Playdays (2718553) **2.05** Rupert (28873805)

2.15 FILM: The Queen of Mean (1990) starring Suzanne Pleshette and Lloyd Bridges. The made-for-television story of Leona Hemsley, who rose from humble beginnings to run her husband's New York property empire and was then convicted of tax evasion. Directed by Richard Michaels. (Ceefax). Includes **News** and weather at **3.00** (775337) **3.50 News** (Ceefax) and weather (3444350)

4.00 Today's the Day. Recent history quiz (s) (621) **4.30 Ready, Steady, Cook** (s) (805)

5.00 The Oprah Winfrey Show The guests are female doctors complaining that women get a raw deal when it comes to their health. (Ceefax) (s) (4077805)

5.40 Glynn Christian's Entertaining Microwave (r) (892698)

6.00 FILM: They Who Dare (1953) starring Dirk Bogarde, Denholm Elliott and Akim Tamiroff. A Second World War drama directed by Lewis Milestone (59248466)

7.45 Travel Show - Short Cuts. Istanbul (821331)

8.00 Horizon: Farewell Fantastic Venus. A look at the results of the latest space probe to Venus. (Ceefax) (s) (385911)

8.50 Lucinda Lambton's Alphabet of Britain *C is for Concrete.* (Ceefax) (s) (430398)

9.00 Bottom (r). (Ceefax) (s) (4534)

9.30 CHOICE **Game On: Big Wednesday.** (Ceefax) (93195)

10.00 CHOICE **Ruling Passions — Sex, Race and Empire.** (Ceefax) (s) (67282)

10.30 Newsnight with Peter Snow. (Ceefax) (132843)

Man Ray in his studio in Paris (11.15pm)

11.15 CHOICE **Man Ray — The Man Who Invented Himself** (s) (297909)

11.55 Weather (607195) **12.00 TV — The Global Impact** (1465428) **12.25am Design Principles.** Consumer products (6601138)

1.20-1.45 The Record (s) (7355995)

2.00-4.00 Night School: PSHE Night 1 (50503)

4.45-5.00 BBC Select: Disability Agenda (r). (Ceefax and signing) (60751409)

5.30-6.00 RCN Nursing Update (r) (11698)

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CHOICE

Cottle, Janus and Chaplin (BBC2, 9.30pm)

Game On

BBC2, 9.30pm

Andrew Davies, of *House of Cards* and *Middlemarch*, makes his sit-com debut in collaboration with Bernadette Davis, a writer new to television. Their subject, hardly original, is three young people who share a flat and talk about nothing except sex. From the evidence so far the gag is that, as with struggling football teams, the build-up is more impressive than the finish. Both Mandy (Samantha Janus) and Martin (Matthew Cottle) seem doomed to be perpetually cheated of their nights of pleasure, while their flatmate Matt (Ben Chaplin) is all talk and no action. The language and the jokes are sure to provoke disgusted letters to *Points of View* and are much too rude to be reproduced in a family newspaper.

Ruling Passions

BBC2, 10.00pm

The intriguing premise of this six-part series is that the British Empire was governed not just by guns and money but attitudes towards sex and colour. In both areas the ingrained superiority of the Europeans was taken for granted. Anthropological studies, popular novels and pornographic films all told the same story. Black women were beautiful, exotic and dangerous. White men could expect to obtain sexual pleasure far more excitingly than at home. But if sex was one thing, marriage was another. The diary of a young English army officer serving in India in the 1920s recalls his love for a 17-year-old girl. The relationship was doomed when he discovered that she was not white but, horror of horrors, Anglo-Indian.

Man Ray — The Man Who Invented Himself

BBC2, 11.15pm

As his estate comes under the hammer at Sotheby's we are offered a timely reassessment of the American dadaist and surrealist whose typical works included a flat iron covered with tacks, a metronome with a winking eye and a baguette painted blue. Man Ray was also, and probably more importantly, a highly gifted photographer who trained his camera with equal facility on artistic celebrities and beautiful women. Chris Granlund's film is a feet-on-the-ground introduction to an elusive subject. It is bolstered by Naomi Savage, Man Ray's niece, and Jacqueline Goddard, a model from his 1920s Parisian period, variously effusive critics and, courtesy of archive footage, Ray himself.

Cutting Edge: Cave Rescue

Channel 4, 9.00pm

The caves beneath the Yorkshire Dales may be dark, wet, cold and dangerous but for the hundreds of potholers who arrive each weekend, risking life is part of the thrill. No wonder there is an elaborate cave rescue organisation ready to spark into action when things go wrong. The busiest period is between October and December, when heavy rain can turn to flooding and student parties swell the roster of victims. Leeds University cavers slink away shamefaced after being accused of putting other people's lives at risk. In the main, though, relations between the trapped and their rescuers are cordial enough to end with a pint in the pub. Striking underground photography enhances a well-observed documentary.

Peter Waymark

CARLTON

6.00am GMTV (89176)

9.25 Chain Letters. Word game with Ted Robbins (s) (4563718) **9.55 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (2795602)

10.00 The Time . . . the Place (s) (4829669)

10.35 This Morning. Weekday family magazine (90963379) **12.20pm London Today** (Teletext) and weather (1650466)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (4579973)

12.55 Coronation Street (r). (Teletext) (4587992) **1.25 Home and Away** (Teletext) (61143718)

1.55 Capital Woman. Virginia Ironside talks about pet bereavement (s) (46173927) **2.25 A Country Practice** (s) (61554737) **2.50 Carlton People**. Fiona Oates introduces an examination into female hair loss (9371398)

3.20 ITN News headlines (Teletext) (7023282) **3.25 London Today** (Teletext) and weather (7022553)

3.30 Rainbow (9128466) **3.40 Tots TV** (s) (3442992) **3.50 Taz-Mania** (s) (7175060) **4.15 Harry's Mad** (Teletext) (s) (476008) **4.45 Art Attack** with Neil Buchanan. (Teletext) (s) (5264973)

5.10 After 5 with Dilly Braimoh (Teletext) (4218224)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (380973)

5.55 Your Shout. Viewers' opinions (203331)

6.00 Home and Away (r). (Teletext) (824)

6.30 London Tonight (Teletext) (176)

7.00 Talking Telephone Numbers. Phillip Schofield and Emma Forbes are joined by Jimmy Nail, Johnnie Casson, Darren Day and the Tagliatelli Brothers (s) (2195)

Colin Procktor and Betty Driver (7.30pm)

7.30 Coronation Street. Alf turns on his son-in-law. (Teletext) (260)

8.00 Lucky Numbers with Shane Ritchie (1843)

8.30 World in Action. Four British former prisoners-of-war return to Japan. (Teletext) (s) (6850)

9.00 FILM: Tango and Cash (1989) starring Sylvester Stallone and Kurt Russell. Two Los Angeles policemen, who are constantly at loggerheads with each other over their differing approaches to police work, form a reluctant partnership when they are framed by a scheming drug baron. Directed by Andrei Konchalovsky. (Teletext) (s) (7114)

10.00 News at Ten (Teletext) and weather (61008)

10.30 London Tonight (Teletext) and weather (219534)

10.40 FILM: Tango and Cash (Continued). (Teletext) (s) (885398)

11.35 The Equalizer starring Edward Woodward and Michele Dotrice (461027)

12.30am Endsleigh League Extra (13464664)

1.15 FILM: Dion Brothers — The Gravy Train (1974) starring Stacy Keach and Frederic Forrest. Crime thriller directed by Jack Starrett (389645)

3.00 Sport AM (4961003)

3.55 The Time . . . the Place (r) (43782119)

4.25 Yan Can Cook (1163119)

5.00 Wanted Dead or Alive

5.30 ITN Morning News (90664). Ends at **6.00**

CHANNEL 4

6.35 Sandokan (r) (8614176)

7.00 The Big Breakfast (28282)

9.00 You Bet Your Life (r) (s) (71485)

9.30 Schools: Geography Start Here! (9774060) **9.46** Talk, Write and Read (9797911) **10.02** Stage Two Science (6570911) **10.20** Place and People (3588337) **10.40** The English Programme (3416992) **11.05** Encyclopaedia Galactica (9169621) **11.15** The Music Show (2557466) **11.30** Rat-a-Tat-Tat (3812244) **11.45** Junior Technology (3840027)

12.00 Right To Reply (r). (Teletext) (s) (51621)

12.30 Sesame Street. The guest is Carol Channing (37282) **1.30 Little Miss** followed by **Paddington, Frootie Tooties** and **The Wombles** (67323260)

1.55 The Pulse. A look at the common cold (r). (Teletext) (s) (48973909)

2.25 Travels a La Carte. Sophie Grigson and her husband William Black are staying in Gascony with an Armagnac-producing family (r). (Teletext) (s) (1684089)

3.00 The Late Late Show. Dublin's topical chat and music series (s) (6734379)

3.55 The 3,000 Mile Garden (r). (Teletext) (s) (8727466)

4.30 Countdown. (Teletext) (s) (973)

5.00 The Golden Girls: High Anxiety. The girls discover that Rose is addicted to a drug she was prescribed for a bad back 30 years ago (r). (Teletext) (1783)

5.30 Nurses: Begone With The Wind. Comedy series set in a Miami hospital (r). (Teletext) (s) (553)

6.00 The Cosby Show: Clair's Place. American domestic comedy (r). (Teletext) (466)

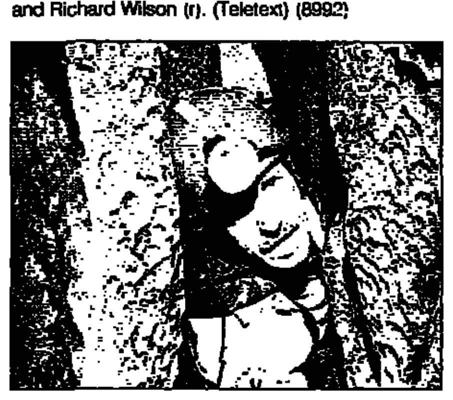
6.30 Hangin' With Mr Cooper. College comedy series. (Teletext) (s) (718)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) and weather (141263)

7.50 The Slot. Viewers' video soapbox (192331)

8.00 The Tallest Story. A look at the lifestyle of the giraffe. (Teletext) (9485)

8.30 Only When I Laugh. The patients decide to inject some pep into the hospital radio service. Starring Christopher Strauli, Peter Bowles, James Bolam and Richard Wilson (r). (Teletext) (8992)



Cave rescuer Phil Haigh goes down (9.00pm)

9.00 CHOICE **Cutting Edge: Cave Rescue** (Teletext) (s) (5756)

10.00 NYPD Blue. New York police drama series. (Teletext) (s) (170843)

10.55 The Edge Of Peace. The work of three Israelis and three Palestinians, aged between 12 and 72 who were given video cameras to record the first year of the Israeli/Palestinian peace accords as reflected in their own communities. (Teletext) (s) (40686176)

1.00am FILM: Vampires in Havana (1985). An animated tale about the world's vampires who descend on the Cuban capital to look for a potion that will help them to survive in sunlight. Directed by Juan Padron (7811770)

2.15 FILM: The Singing Kid (1936, b/w) starring Al Jolson and Beverly Roberts. Comedy musical directed by William Keightly (684138). Ends at **3.50**

VARIATIONS

ANGLIA

As London except: 9.55am-10.00 Anglia News and Weather (2795602) **12.20pm-12.30** Anglia News (1650466) **1.55** A Country Practice (82785718) **2.20** Houseparty (61546718) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (9371398) **3.25-3.30** Anglia News and Weather (7022553) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4218224) **6.25-7.00** Anglia Weather followed by Anglia News (299089) **10.30-10.40** Anglia News (219534) **12.10am** Coach (7025770) **12.25** Endsleigh League Extra (6137696) **1.10** The Dion Brothers - The Gravy Train (917931) **3.00** Sport AM (4961003) **3.55** The Time.. the Place (43782119) **4.25** Yan Can Cook (1163119) **5.00-5.30** Wanted Dead or Alive (33916)

CENTRAL

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Central News (2795602) **12.20pm-12.30** Central News and Weather (1650466) **1.55** A Country Practice (82785718) **2.20** Look and Cook (61546718) **2.50-3.20** Blockbusters (9371398) **3.25-3.30** Central News (7022553) **5.10-5.40** Shortland Street (4218224) **6.25-7.00** Central News and Weather (299089) **10.30-10.40** Central News and Weather (219534) **11.35** The Monday Night Fight (190027) **12.35am-1.20** Endsleigh League Football Extra (1363935) **4.20** Jobfinder (9572886) **5.20-5.30** Asian Eye (8433393)

GRANADA

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Granada News (2795602) **12.20pm-12.30** Granada News (1650466) **12.55** Shortland Street (4587992) **1.25** Home and Away (30156176) **1.50** Murder, She Wrote (7443466) **2.45-3.20** De Medici Kitchen (5985242) **3.25-3.30** Granada News (7022553) **5.10-5.40** A Country Practice (4218224) **6.25-7.00** Granada Tonight (299089) **10.30-10.40** Granada News (219534) **11.35** The Equalizer (190027) **12.35am** Endsleigh League Extra (1363935) **1.20** Sport AM (5149312) **2.20** Quiz Night (1379916) **2.45** ZPG. Zero Population Growth (399663) **4.20** Jobfinder (1164848) **4.55-5.30** The Time the Place (6507022)

HTV WEST

As London except: 9.55-10.00 HTV West Headlines (2795602) **12.20pm-12.30** HTV West News and Weather (1650466) **1.55** Art Works (46173927) **2.25-3.20** Dr Quinn, Medicine Woman (2159466) **3.25-3.30** HTV West Headlines (7022553) **5.10-5.40** The New Mr & Mrs Show (4218224) **6.30-7.00** HTV News (176) **10.30-10.40** HTV West Headlines (219534) **11.35** Spotlight (631992) **12.05am-12.35** The Powers That Be (1432190) **4.20-4.55** Jobfinder (1164848)

HTV WALES

As HTV WEST except: 5.10-5.40 Eye TV (4218224) **6.30-7.00** Wales Tonight (176) **11.35-12.05pm** Primetime (631992)

MERIDIAN

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (82785718) **2.20-3.20** Murder, She Wrote (7416602) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4218224) **6.00** Meridian Tonight (824) **6.30-7.00** Country Ways (176) **10.30-10.40** Meridian News(219534) **11.35** Phoenix (447447) **12.25am** Endsleigh League Extra (6137696) **1.10** The Dion Brothers - The Gravy Train (917931) **3.00** Sport AM (4961003) **3.55** The Time.. the Place (43782119) **4.25** Yan Can Cook (1163119) **5.00-5.30** Freescreen (33916)

WESTCOUNTRY

As London except: 9.55-10.00 Westcountry News (2795602) **12.20pm** Westcountry News (1669114) **12.25-12.30** My Story (1668485) **1.55** Gardeners' Diary (46173927) **2.25-2.55** The Young Doctors (61545089) **3.25-3.30** Westcountry News, Weather (7022553) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4218224) **6.00-7.00** Westcountry Live (85176) **10.30-10.40** Westcountry News; Weather (219534) **11.35-12.35pm** Crime Story (190027) **4.20am-4.55** Jobfinder (1164848)

YORKSHIRE

As London except: 1.55 A Country Practice (82785718) **2.20** Wish You Were Here ? (61546718) **2.50** Help Yourself (9786398) **2.55-3.20** Shortland Street (7552331) **5.10-5.40** Home and Away (4218224) **5.55** Calendar / Network North (579602) **6.30-7.00** Enterprize 95 (176) **10.30-10.40** Calendar News and Weather (219534) **11.35** Prisoner Cell Block H (461027) **12.30am** An Innocent Woman (573916) **2.20** The New Music (6396119) **3.20** The Chart Show (4981867) **4.15-5.30** Jobfinder (4940886)

S4C

Starts: 7.00 The Big Breakfast (28282) **9.00** You Bet Your Life (71485) **9.30** Ysgolion (952621) **12.00pm** Right To Reply (51621) **12.30** Slot Meithrin (47517) **1.00** The Magic Roundabout (38669) **1.30** The Way We Were (97058) **2.00** The Immortal Sergeant (979486) **3.40** Machinations (9108244) **3.55** The 3,000 Mile Garden (8727466) **4.30** Dennis (973) **5.00** 5 Pump (5741008) **5.15** 5 Pump (7922621) **5.30** Countdown (553) **6.00** Newyddion (961843) **6.15** Heno (929718) **7.00** Pobol Y Cwm (1927) **7.30** Sgorio (54973) **8.30** Newyddion (8992) **9.00** Y Byd Ar Bedwar (9602) **9.30** Roseanne (88263) **10.00** NYPD Blue (170843) **10.55** Coupe De Ville (96479008)

SATELLITE

SKY ONE

6.00am DJ Kat (89350) **8.00** Power Rangers (2702263) **8.45** The Oprah Winfrey Show (9813089) **9.30** Card Sharks (24089) **10.00** Concentration (17602) **10.30** Candid Camera (95089) **11.00** Sally Jessy Raphael (74485) **12.00** The Urban Peasant (19669) **12.30pm** E Street (28805) **1.00** St Elsewhere (16060) **2.00** The Dirtwater Dynasty (18331) **3.00** The Oprah Winfrey Show (1519640) **3.50** The DJ Kat Show (4138195) **4.30** The Mighty Morphin Power Rangers (9973) **5.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (2114) **6.00** Gamesworld (6806) **6.30** Family Ties (1718) **7.00** E Street (3843) **7.30** M*A*S*H (4682) **8.00** Due South (66843) **9.00** Civil Wars (73379) **10.00** Star Trek: The Next Generation (76466) **11.00** Late Show with David Letterman (349331) **11.45** Littlejohn (643319) **12.30am** Chances (56916) **1.30** Night Court (22461) **2.00-6.00** Hitmix Long Play

SKY NEWS

News on the hour

6.00am Sunrise (9530973) **9.30** Worldwide Report (9043602) **10.10** 60 Minutes (7703176) **1.30pm** CBS News (61824) **2.30** Parliament Live (81060) **6.05** Richard Littlejohn (70797737) **9.00** O.J. Simpson Trial (5174485) **12.30am** CBS Evening News (2364683) **1.10** 60 Minutes (8782461) **2.30** Parliament Replay (43409) **4.30** Worldwide Report (51916) **5.30-6.00** ABC Nightline (25374)

SKY MOVIES

6.00am Showcase (5383440) **10.00 Born Yesterday** (1993) (22621) **12.00 Six Pack** (1982) (22534) **2.00pm The Neptune Factor** (1973) (67718) **4.00 The Adventures of the Wilderness Family** (1975) (4718) **6.00 Born Yesterday**: As 10am (70282) **8.00 Digger** (1993) (82027) **10.00 Jason Goes to Hell: The Final Friday** (1993) (21176) **11.30 Class Act** (1992) (735485) **1.10am Student Bodies** (1981) (9652664) **2.35 Dirty Mary, Crazy Larry** (1974) (5407138) **4.05-6.00 It's Nothing Personal** (1992) (162667)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

6.00pm Greystoke: The Legend of Tarzan, Lord of the Apes (1984) (61980927) **8.10 The Double Life of Veronique** (1991) (10363756) **10.00-12.00 The Long Goodbye** (1973) (31843)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am The Master of Ballantrae (1953) (72060) **8.00 The Three Musketeers** (73176) **9.00 Robin Hood** (18602) **10.00 The List of Adrian Messenger** (1963) (20263) **12.00 The Innocents** (1961) (20176) **2.00pm The Great Imposter** (1960) (58060) **4.00 The Three Musketeers**: As 8am (37089) **5.00 Robin Hood** As 9am (5824) **6.00 Wind Dancer** (1993) (33911) **7.30 UK Top Ten** (6640) **8.00 The Tonya and Nancy Story** (1994) (80669) **10.00 In the Line of Fire** (1993) (46728896) **12.10am Cool World** (1992) (419119) **1.55 Confessions of a Driving Instructor** (1976) (8320916) **3.25-5.00 Twenty-One** (1990) (80725916)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Max Out (28404) **7.30** American Sports Cavalcade (78089) **8.30** World Sports Special (46896) **9.00** One to One (28756) **9.30** Aerobics Oz Style (57756) **10.00** The Superstars of European Golf (37982) **12.00** Aerobics Oz Style (46832) **12.30pm** Super Sunday. Queens Park Rangers v Nottingham Forest (55640) **2.30** NBA Basketball (386832) **5.00** World Wrestling Federation Mania (1640) **6.00** Soccer News (119242) **6.15** Fish Tales (864535) **6.30** Stunt Team Championship (1756) **7.00** Football Special (80060) **9.00** Golf: South African Open (28843) **10.00** Soccer News (482398) **10.15** Fish Tales (450553) **10.30** Stunt Team Championship (25669) **11.00** Football Special — The Season So Far (81756) **1.00-2.00am** Golf: South African Open (96119)

EUROSPORT

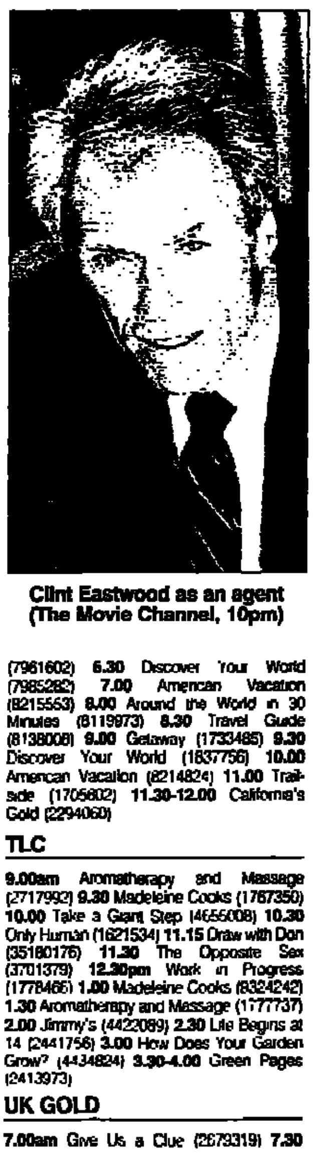
7.30am Golf (32640) **9.30** Speed Skating (46027) **10.30** Alpine Skiing (44485) **12.00** Ski Jumping (32447) **1.00pm** Football (41195) **2.00** Athletics (64089) **3.30** Tennis (883260) **6.30** News (6824) **7.00** Speedworld (15756) **9.00** Athletics (13911) **10.00** Football (50602) **11.30** Eurogolf Magazine (68805) **12.30-1.00am** News (52954)

SKY SOAP

8.00am Loving (6869621) **8.30** Peyton Place (6868992) **9.00** As the World Turns (9766440) **10.00** Guiding Light (6581824) **11.00-12.00** Another World (6561060)

SKY TRAVEL

12.00 Travel — Ischia (6879008) **12.30pm** Zoo Life (1817992) **1.00** The Great Escape (6572176) **1.30** Cook Italian (1816263) **2.00** California's Gold (8139737) **2.30** Kaleidoscope — Copenhagen (7960973) **3.00** Great Train Journey Through India (1725466) **4.00** Travel Guide (7984553) **4.30** Zoo Life (7360737) **5.00** Trailside (8120089) **5.30** Cook Italian (7971089) **6.00** Getaway (7961602) **6.30** Discover Your World (7985282) **7.00** American Vacation (8215553) **8.00** Around the World in 30 Minutes (8119973) **8.30** Travel Guide (8138008) **9.00** Getaway (1733485) **9.30** Discover Your World (1837756) **10.00** American Vacation (8214824) **11.00** Trailside (1705602) **11.30-12.00** California's Gold (2294060)



Clint Eastwood as an agent (The Movie Channel, 10pm)

TLC

9.00am Aromatherapy and Massage (2717992) **9.30** Madeleine Cooks (1767350) **10.00** Take a Giant Step (4656008) **10.30** Only Human (1621534) **11.15** Draw with Don (35180176) **11.30** The Opposite Sex (3701379) **12.30pm** Work in Progress (1778466) **1.00** Madeleine Cooks (8324242) **1.30** Aromatherapy and Massage (1777737) **2.00** Jimmy's (4422089) **2.30** Life Begins at 14 (2441756) **3.00** How Does Your Garden Grow? (4434824) **3.30-4.00** Green Pages (2413973)

UK GOLD

7.00am Give Us a Clue (2673319) **7.30** Neighbours (3124404) **8.00** Sons and Daughters (2736027) **8.30** EastEnders (2735398) **9.00** The Bill (2719350) **9.30** Flesh and Blood (4272195) **10.30** Juliet Bravo (6787824) **11.30** Terry and June (4553263) **12.00** Sons and Daughters (2739114) **12.30pm** Neighbours (1770824) **1.00** EastEnders (7524260) **1.30** The Bill (1779195) **2.00** Spring and Autumn (4424447) **2.30** Rings on Their Fingers (2443114) **3.00** Knots Landing (4564379) **4.00** Dallas (4576114) **5.00** Every Second Counts (9633350) **5.35** Dick Emery (5803447) **5.50** Hi-De-Hi (9907756) **6.30** EastEnders (2435195) **7.00** Two Ronnies (9882718) **8.00** Rings on Their Fingers (4437911) **8.30** My Wife Next Door (4423718) **9.00** Secret Army (9871602) **10.00** The Bill (2730843) **10.30** Top of the Pops (7948060) **11.10** Ripping Yarns (3201466) **11.50** Dr Who (3501398) **12.20am** FILM. **Underwater** (1955) (3746175) **2.05** Shopping (1098461)

THE CHILDREN'S CHANNEL

6.00am Sesame Street (1016080) **6.55** Garfield (9580737) **7.25** Eek the Cat (8690824) **7.55** Pugwall's Summer (3218089) **8.25** Super Mario Brothers (1780737) **8.45** Casper (9496669) **9.00** Sesame Street (21114) **10.00** It's Droibee Time (39756) **12.00** Garfield (51008) **12.30pm** Eek the Cat (80008) **1.00** Beverly Hills Teens (61756) **1.30** Super Mario Brothers (49588783) **1.45** Baby Follies (10233078) **2.00** Barney (2911) **2.30** Babar (1355) **3.00** Casper (5202640) **3.15** Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventures (113027) **3.45** Sonic (112398) **4.15** Head to Head in 3D (1695485) **4.30-5.00** California Dreams (1599)

NICKELODEON

7.00am Nickalive! (3661701) **7.15** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (215824) **7.45** Rugrats (214195) **8.15** Doug (316027) **8.45** Nickalive! (9457669) **9.00** Nick Junior **12.00** Pee-Wee's Playhouse (46814) **12.30pm** Muppets (59114) **1.00** Galaxy High (76927) **1.30** Banana Sandwich (58485) **2.00** Denver (6195) **2.30** Smoggies (4089) **3.00** Nick Faves (5602) **3.30** Hero Turtles (9534) **4.00** Doug (8669) **4.30** Rugrats (7553) **5.00** Clarissa (7447) **5.30** Secret World of Alex Mac (8805) **6.00** Grimmy (5718) **6.30-7.00** Dracula

DISCOVERY

4.00pm The Global Family (2432008) **4.30** Earthfile (2421992) **5.00** Blood, Sweat and Glory (92958945) **6.05** Beyond 2000 (8309350) **7.00** Next Step (4426805) **7.30** Future Quest (2422621) **8.00** Space Shuttle Pioneers (9899008) **9.00** Reaching For The Skies (9879244) **10.00** The Blue Revolution (9872331) **11.00** Special Forces (4575485) **11.30-12.00** Those Who Dare (4644992)

BRAVO

12.00 FILM: The Passionate Stranger (1956) Romantic comedy with Ralph Richardson (4662398) **2.00pm** The Avengers (4643263) **3.00** Rat Patrol (4421350) **3.30** Hogan's Heroes (2440027) **4.00** FILM. Circus of Fear (1967): A series of murders are linked to a macabre circus (5421621) **5.30** Drama Classics (2449398) **6.00** The Protectors (2439911) **6.30** Cannon (2779466) **7.30** The Invisible Man (2426447) **8.00** The Avengers (9886534) **9.00** The New Avengers (9806398) **10.00-12.00** FILM. **Scum** (1979). (4558718)

UK LIVING

6.00am Agony Hour (6522553) **7.00** Living Magazine (1864195) **8.00** Room for Change (3289114) **8.30** Rendezvous (3298485) **9.00** On the House (3289737) **9.30** Kate and Allie (3167060) **10.00** Now You See It (8761718) **10.30** The Susan Powter Show (3278621) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (5515440) **12.00** Masterchef (7640756) **12.35pm** Rendezvous (11991373) **1.05** Kilroy (7572485) **2.00** Agony Hour (8762447) **3.00** Living Magazine (9003060) **3.45** Gladrags and Glamour (98000534) **4.00** Infatuation (6517718) **4.30** Crosswits (38129350) **4.55** Take Six Cooks (6130718) **5.30** The New Mr and Mrs Show (6520382) **6.00** The Susan Powter Show (6527195) **6.30** Brookside (6518447) **7.00** Living Magazine (7133756) **8.00** The Young and the Restless (7119176) **9.00** FILM. **Hex** (1973) (69848981) **10.50** Sneak Scenes — Trapped in Paradise (9058718) **11.00** Brookside (4796195) **11.30-12.00** Infatuation UK (8750602)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Dangermouse (3263) **5.30** Motormouth (784447) **6.25** All Clued Up (902176) **7.00** Trivial Pursuit (3027) **7.30** My Two Dads (1398) **8.00** By Way of the Stars (57379) **9.00** Moonlighting (60843) **10.00** Family Catchphrase (52737) **10.30** GP (61485) **11.00** Lou Grant (48805) **12.00** Rhoda (22225) **12.30pm** Big Brother Jake (87664) **1.00** Dangermouse (76732) **1.30** Trivial Pursuit (19935) **2.00** Moonlighting (34916) **3.00** Lou Grant (16393) **4.00** Rhoda (61935) **4.30-5.00** Big Brother Jake (97225)

MTV

5.00am Awake on the Wildside (39645) **6.30** The Grind (11263) **7.00** Awake on the Wildside (70027) **8.00** VJ Ingo (901282) **11.00** The Soul of MTV (69398) **12.00** Greatest Hits (61973) **1.00pm** The Afternoon Mix (689263) **3.30** Coca-Cola Report (5959992) **3.45** Cinematic (5954447) **4.00** MTV News at Night (1675992) **4.15** 3 from 1 (1698843) **4.30** Dial MTV (2027) **5.00** Hit List UK (34331) **7.00** Greatest Hits (5485) **7.30** Madonna: A Body of Work (75850) **9.00** The Real World 3 (22195) **9.30** Beavis and Butt-Head (43262) **10.30** Coca-Cola Report (800242) **10.45** Cinematic (555535) **11.00** MTV News at Night (200028) **11.15** 3 from 1 (252701) **11.30** The End? (57350) **1.00am** The Soul of MTV (30577) **2.00** The Grind (72041) **2.30-5.00** Night Videos (395596)

VH-1

7.00am Crawling from the Wreckage (6571447) **9.00** Café VH-1 (6996640) **12.00** The Bridge (1838485) **1.00pm** Videos (6574534) **1.30** Ten of the Best (1000992) **2.30** Heart and Soul (2142263) **3.30** Into the Music (2114945) **6.00** Prime Cuts (7963060) **6.30** VH-1 to 1 (7987640) **7.00** VH-1 for You (8217911) **8.00** VH-1 Album Chart (8204447) **10.00** The Bridge (9861094) **11.30** The Nightfly (8411553) **1.30am** Ten of the Best (3263848) **2.30** Dawn Patrol

CMT EUROPE

Country music from **6am** to **7pm**, including **5.00** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6.00-7.00** Big Ticket

TV ASIA

6.00am Persian Dawn (10201076) **7.00** Asian Morning (68821195) **8.30** Ju Ki Kahani (70740756) **9.00** Pakistani FILM (61255669) **12.00** Ghar (20171398) **1.00pm** Hindi FILM (49728824) **4.00** Daldal (13043737) **5.00** As You Like It (81457260) **5.30** TVA and You (71039331) **6.00** Mustafan (71026244) **6.30** Bhangra Bonanza (71040824) **7.00** Des Padres (67057404) **7.30** Get Set Go (71046008) **8.00** News (85057224) **8.30** Khubsoorat (62007909) **9.00** Hindi FILM (34889195) **12.00** Asian Morning (74132664) **1.30am** Sight and Sound (26880409)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, then TNT films as below.

7.00pm *Broadway Melody of 1938* (1937) (22664843) **9.00 *A Date with Judy*** (1948) (88851517) **11.10 *Ladies Who Do*** (1964) (40562114) **12.45pm *The Magnificent Seven Deadly Sins*** (1971) (40504428) **2.40-4.40 *Double Bunk*** (1961) (56636683)

● For more film information, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday

CNN/QVC

CNN provides 24-hour news and QVC is the home shopping channel

IN THE MONEY 40
MIDLAND BANK'S
PARENT HOPES TO
TOP £3 BILLION

BUSINESS

MONDAY FEBRUARY 27 1995

HISTORY LESSON 42
GRAHAM SEARJEANT
ON RETAINING THE
CITY'S CONFIDENCE

BUSINESS EDITOR LINDSAY COOK

Worldwide derivatives inquiry demanded

By Neil Bennett, deputy business editor

THE Bank for International Settlements, in an authoritative report published today, has forced central banks to organise the largest ever global inquiry into the extent of derivatives trading.

The initiative was established to prevent exactly the type of collapse that Barings suffered this weekend.

The report has prompted central banks to organise an inquiry into the scope of the derivatives market, starting in April, and to set up a mechanism so that the 50 largest will report their derivatives trading every three months.

The report, *Issues of measurement related to market size and macroprudential risks in derivatives market*, has been drawn up by a working party staffed by central bankers from the G10 developed nations. The working party was founded in 1993, with Jan Brockmeier, of The Netherlands central bank, as chairman, when the G10 central banks decided that they needed greater information on the derivatives markets. The findings were first delivered to the central banks last September.

The Bank of England is taking part in the investigation and will be sending out detailed questionnaires to all investment banks soon. This will be run alongside the Foreign Exchange Survey, an inquiry that takes place every three years. All banks will be asked the extent of their trading in derivatives markets, including that on recognised exchanges and over-the-counter markets.

They will have to reveal the size of their positions and hedging policies. The Bank of England will collate the information and pass it to the BIS, which will produce a report on the world market. Then, for the first time, the international banking authorities will be able to judge the size of the derivatives markets and the risks they pose.

After that, the Brockmeier report recommends a regular reporting system for the large investment banks that dominate the derivatives markets. Investment banks would be expected to hand over information from their internal data bases to central bank regulators. The report believes this would allow the world banking system to monitor the development of the derivatives markets and gauge their size and form. This recommendation has already been accepted by central banks, which are examining ways of setting up a reporting system.

The Brockmeier report is BIS's response to growing unease among central bankers and politicians about the hidden risks in derivatives. This was stirred up by a succession of heavy derivative-related losses among banks and industrial companies in recent years, crowned by the $1.5 billion lost by Metallgesellschaft in Germany.

April's investigation is particularly intended to shed some light on the shadowy over-the-counter market, where derivatives are traded between banks outside any recognised futures exchange.

The findings of the surveys will be published to give banks a clearer idea of the nature of the markets in which they are trading.

Barings rescue talks, page 1
Details, analysis, page 3
Libby Purves, page 17
William Rees-Mogg, and Diary, page 18
Leading article, page 19
Graham Searjeant, page 42
The rise and fall, page 42

ALAN WELLER

Julie Conway, left, and Liz Southgate, both of Johnson Fry, taking part in the City Initiative's Bungee Running competition, held in Exchange Square in the Broadgate Centre on Friday. The competition in aid of Comic Relief was organised as a prelude to Red Nose day on March 17. Several investment banks have now pledged to donate a fixed sum for every bargain on the stock market that day.

Far East and London braced for fallout over Barings

By Janet Bush, economics correspondent

TRADERS in the Far East and London were preparing themselves last night for a damaging fallout on stock and futures markets after the disclosure of the financial crisis at Barings.

Particularly vulnerable, even if the Bank of England succeeds in calming markets with a rescue package, are the stock market in Tokyo and the Osaka Securities Exchange and the Singapore International Monetary Exchange (SIMEX), both of which trade Nikkei-225 futures contracts.

Barings hit crisis point after a single trader in Singapore built up huge positions in these futures. There were fears last night about the potential impact of Barings offloading any remaining positions.

The Tokyo Stock Exchange, where the Nikkei stock index is traded, and SIMEX said that they would open for normal trading, but the Osaka exchange said it was not sure whether it would open today.

Traders in the Far East said that there had been concern for some time about very substantial long positions built up by Barings in Nikkei-225 futures contracts and that these had probably become unsustainable after the sharp drop in the Nikkei index over the past two weeks.

Tokyo Stock Exchange figures suggested that futures activity linked to the Nikkei index had been at very high levels recently. Cash-buying positions linked to arbitrage plays with Nikkei-225 futures were at a historic high of 1.5 billion shares as of last week.

Some analysts in Tokyo were predicting that the Nikkei could fall by 1,000 points in response to the troubles at Barings, which is a leading player in Far Eastern markets.

London, too, was highly nervous last night about the Barings affair, which has hit confidence at a time when sterling is already nearing record lows in anticipation of Wednesday's key vote for the Government on European policy. The pound dropped to within half a pfennig of its all-time low against the mark late on Friday. Shares are likely to react badly too.

The Barings crisis adds to the turbulence and uncertainty that has already been seen in the world's markets this year. The crisis after the devaluation of the Mexican peso had serious knock-on effects on the dollar and emerging markets.

Added to that were political and economic woes in several European countries, including Britain, which have led to record lows for the Italian lira and the Spanish peseta against the mark last week and near-record lows for the pound.

Babcock to win Rosyth for £20m

By Neil Bennett
deputy business editor

THE Government is set to sell the Rosyth royal dockyards and naval base in Scotland to a powerful consortium that plans to redevelop it into Scotland's largest industrial park.

After meetings with Roger Freeman, the Defence Procurement Minister, Babcock International, the power engineering group, is expected to buy the Rosyth dockyard for up to £20 million this summer. Meanwhile, a consortium including Babcock, called Rosyth 2000, is poised to buy the adjacent naval base for a similar sum.

The consortium, which also includes the Bank of Scotland, ScottishPower and the Forth Ports Authority is the front runner to buy the 1,200-acre naval base, which closes at the end of the year. The chances of the bid's success were increased by Mr Freeman in the House of Commons recently when he pledged that he would not undertake a "piecemeal sale" of the base.

If the two bids are successful, Babcock plans to sell the consortium the dockyards and lease them back to minimise its investment. The consortium would then redevelop the whole area to attract Scotland's thriving business community.

Babcock has emerged as the only bidder for Rosyth dockyards, but its bid is thought to have been well received by the Government since it is sufficiently high to warrant privatising the yard. The group has now been asked to submit a final bid. Babcock is believed to be insisting that the Government shoulders all the environmental liabilities for the dockyards, which refit nuclear submarines. The Government should make a final decision on the sale this summer.

Rosyth 2000 plans to finance its bid with 50 per cent equity, supplied by the partners, and the rest in debt lent by the Bank of Scotland. The strong Scottish credentials of the projects' shareholders are thought to strengthen the chances of its offer. Mr Freeman has told the Commons that he expects further proposals from them next month, and is interested only in bids for the whole naval base.

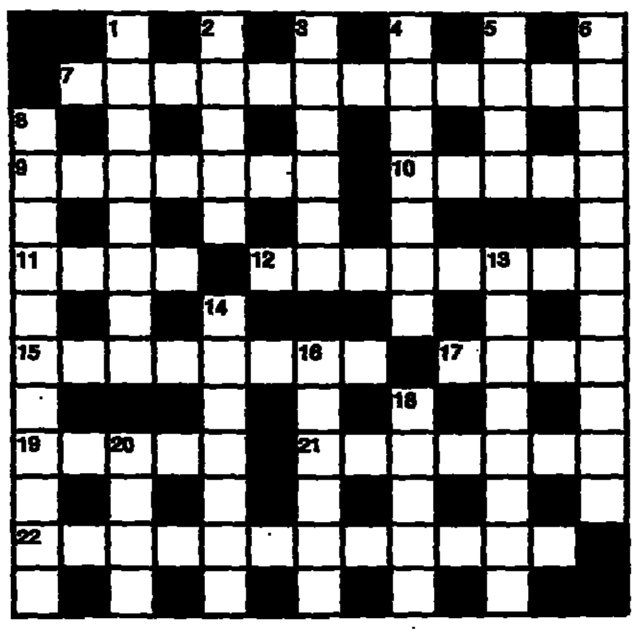
Pentos still hoping to beat deadline

PENTOS, the troubled owner of Dillons and Rymans, will today continue last-ditch rescue talks with its banks and venture capitalists in the hope of raising £20 million in fresh capital before tomorrow's deadline.

In spite of its difficult position, Pentos is believed to have turned its back on an offer by Terry Maher, the ousted former chairman, to buy Dillons.

There is growing anger at Pentos at the banks' refusal to increase their lending, in spite of having had early warnings of its working capital needs. Last December, the banks forced Pentos to put its Athena subsidiary into receivership as a condition of continued support.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD



No 406

ACROSS
7 Thoroughly well (3,2,1,6)
9 Atone for (7)
10 Great fear (5)
11 Newcastle river (4)
12 Half shadow (8)
15 Part-song society (4,4)
17 Listen! (4)
19 Ritually forbidden (5)
21 Not native (7)
22 Displaying lively interest (12)

DOWN
1 Measure out and issue (8)
2 Position/speed detection system (5)
3 Germ cell (6)
4 Discover (4,3)
5 Surface boundary (4)
6 Dismiss peremptorily (4,7)
8 Informal gathering (3-8)
13 Serenely radiant (8)
14 Pastoral poem (7)
16 Inequitable (6)
18 Gambol; check for weapons (5)
20 Clyde island; 18C PM (4)

SOLUTION TO NO 405

ACROSS: 1 Snub 4 Fair copy 8 Hot stuff 9 Darn 10 Fever 11 Interim 13 Wither 15 Tubing 18 Offhand 20 Least 23 Baby 24 Thickset 25 Keenness 26 Rude

DOWN: 2 Noose 3 Beseech 4 Feud 5 Infinite 6 Cadge 7 Portion 10 Few 12 Brunette 14 Inflame 16 Breaker 17 Get 19 Haydn 21 Spend 22 Bias

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UK may have most works councils

BRITAIN may end up with the largest number of European works councils of any country in Europe, in spite of the Government's social chapter opt-out aimed at avoiding unwelcome employment law from Brussels (Philip Bassett writes).

The figures are revealed in the latest and most authoritative guide to the impact of EWCs in Britain by Warwick University and Industrial Relations Services, employment analysts.

Under new European law, certain multinational companies will have to introduce by September next year new methods of informing and consulting employees on key areas of business activity.

The Warwick study suggests 860 companies across Europe may be affected by the EWC directive, including 326 multinationals in Britain, the single-highest number.

North West Water looks to Australia for expansion

From Rachel Bridge in Sydney

NORTH WEST WATER is looking to buy an Australian water utility as part of its expansion overseas. The acquisition of an entire water business would be a significant step for the group, which has so far only taken on contracts for specific water projects.

Nick Greiner, the chairman of North West Water and formerly the Premier of New South Wales, said: "We'd be keen to buy and to actually run a utility business in Australia. It's something we'd very much like to do. We are ready, willing and able."

The State Governments of Australia have been considering the option of selling off their water utilities as part of a national privatisation programme. Late last year, the Governments of Victoria and New South Wales began the process by "corporatising" Sydney Water and Melbourne Water — effectively running them along private lines while under government ownership.

The South Australian Government is looking for a global partner to help it to develop its water business, a move that would involve contracting out many operations and its capital works programme to the private sector.

Britain's water companies are under pressure to find new unregulated sources of revenue in the wake of Ofwat's clampdown on future price rises in their core water businesses.

Mr Greiner said: "All the governments know that we are ready, willing and able if they choose to put the businesses up for sale. At the moment, no one has quite had the political courage to sell the part of the business that deals with the customers. We've just got to be patient. At the end of the day their problems are not technical; their problems are political."

Steven Humphreys, North West Water spokesman, said: "We remain convinced that expanding overseas is the right thing to do in view of the need to build up earnings that are non-regulated. It is an opportunity to build up a sustainable stream of earnings which aren't under threat from the whims of the regulator."

North West Water has been one of the most active in the sector to seek business overseas and has already won contracts to operate and build water treatment plants in Melbourne and Sydney, as well as to upgrade water and waste water systems in Malaysia, Mexico and Thailand.

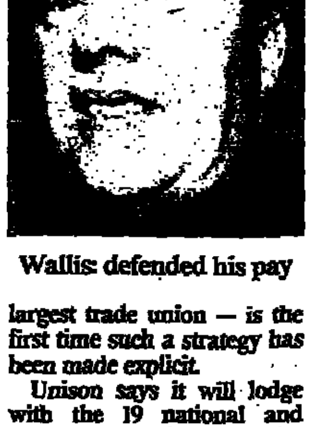
Power chiefs' pay fuels workers' claim

By Philip Bassett

BRITAIN'S electricity union leaders are today due to announce that they plan to demand wage increases for union members as big as those given to power chiefs.

Union leaders say that claims for 30,000 white-collar workers in the power industry will be directly linked to what they call electricity directors' pay "bonanza" in the past year.

Business leaders concerned at the high levels and increases of some directors' pay — especially in privatised utilities, such as electricity, gas, water and telecommunications — have been giving warning that big pay rises at the top of companies will have a knock-on effect on pay bargaining, but the move by Unison, the public services union — and Britain's largest trade union — is the first time such a strategy has been made explicit.



Wallis: defended his pay

Unison says it will lodge with the 19 national and regional electricity companies pay demands that "reflect increases of between 11 and 30 per cent which chairmen and chief executives received".

Evidence published by the union today presents new calculations of the salary, share option and pension packages of electricity leaders.

Ed Wallis, PowerGen's chief executive, who recently insisted that he was worth all his salary and who will be questioned tomorrow about his pay by the Commons Employment Select Committee, enjoys a post-privatisation package worth £3.7 million, the union says, while John Baker, National Power's chief executive, is on £2.3 million. The figures are calculated by taking a figure for executives' post-privatisation salary and what it would have been had the company stayed in the public sector, similar public-private pension calculations, plus fully-calculated share options.

The union shows the largest rises for directors of electricity companies over the past year, including 38 per cent for the highest-paid director of Yorkshire Electricity and 34 per cent for Eastern's top-earner — though SWEB's highest-paid director saw a fall in pay of 10 per cent. The union links the rises directly to big job cuts at most of the companies.

☐ Pay deals are rising and are expected to increase further after the latest jump in retail price inflation, according to Incomes Data Services, the pay research company. It found three-quarters of deals this year giving rises of at least 3 per cent, with a further fifth, an increasing proportion, at 4 per cent or more.

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